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Weekly audited distribution (26 weeks) to 31/12/08 - 42,924 (GEM Series). Audited by Grinter Johnson Ltd. Chartered Accountants.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2010

FLYING VET CASE TAKES DRAMATIC TURN AS 'FOXY' GIVES EVIDENCE

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

THE Cardiff Crown Court trial of the 'Flying Vet' who is accused of illegally possessing a Lewis machine gun nearly a century old, took a dramatic turn when an undercover police officer was called to give evidence.

MAURICE KIRK

The courtroom was cleared of all members of the public and high screens were erected around the witness box, in order that the identity of the officer known as 'Foxy' was not revealed.

At one point during the case, the defendant, Maurice Kirk, aged 64, asked for permission for a live round to be fired from the gun in the courtroom. Judge Paul Thomas refused the request.

Mr Kirk of Marlpits, St Donats, has pleaded not guilty to possessing a prohibited weapon, and not guilty of selling or transferring it.

It is alleged that Mr Kirk told the owner of a First World War fighter plane that the Lewis gun had been de-activated.

The prosecutor Richard Twomlow said it was still capable of firing the live ammunition.

The jury has heard that Mr Kirk, described in court as "eccentric", posted a video of himself holding the weapon on the internet. There it was seen by the undercover police officer, who contacted Mr Kirk, using the name of 'Foxy'.

When 'Foxy' gave evidence, he said he telephoned Kirk, indicating his interest in the weapon.

Mr Kirk told him "she's no longer with me". It is alleged that Mr Kirk indicated the gun had not been de-activated.

Detective Constable Stephen Reed-Parker said he accessed a website of Mr Kirk's and located the pictures of him carrying the gun.

There was also reference on You-tube to Mr Kirk landing a plane within a prohibited area of President Bush's ranch in Texas.

Mr Kirk said he indicated he had been detained in prison in Texas and was forced to take a flying test by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Andrew Huxtable, a firearms expert, said it was possible for one bullet at a time to be fired from the gun.

"In my opinion, this is a firearm. It is a prohibited weapon." he said.

Richard Mabbitt, a proofmaster, with the Worshipful Company of Gun Makers, said he had been shown the weapon and found that it had not been de-activated.

"It was stripped down and it was capable of being fired. It could have discharged a lethal round." he said. It was at this point that Mr Kirk asked that a live round be fired from the gun.

Earlier this week, 16 large black boxes of documents relating to the case were put in the dock alongside Mr Kirk.

The judge said he didn't want any time wasted and said the issues were whether Mr Kirk was in possession of the gun, was it prohibited, and if it was, did he sell it without the permission of the Secretary of State.

At one point Mr Kirk said to the judge "You and I are getting bored stiff with this case. The quicker we can talk law the better".

He described the case as a "charade" and said that he had wrongly been classified as a terrorist.

(THE CASE CONTINUES)

CULVERHOUSE CROSS COUGHS UP THE CASH!

Barry Town Centre's £200,000 cash bounty!

by TIM CHAPMAN

BARRY town centre is set to benefit from a £200,000 cash boost – if the Vale cabinet agrees with the main recommendation of a regeneration report.

The injection of funds would be divided equally between the town centre's infrastructure on one hand, and activities and events on the other.

The money is available, thanks to a 'section 106' agreement between the Vale Council and the developer of Valegate Retail Park at Culverhouse Cross, which allowed extra retail space – and in return the developer agreed to pay the council £200,000.

The idea is that money will be spent on enhancing the local environment with improvements to buildings and additional features such as artwork, and that along with new events, there will be a significant economic impact.

During discussions, the timescale considered for the 'events programme' has varied from between two and five years, but it appears that a two-year programme spending £50,000 each year is likely.

The ideas being considered are a Christmas/winter wonderland event – either over one or two weeks – a week of Whitsun activities for children, and a seven-day summer event.

The chairman of Holton Road Traders Association, Mr Nick Frangoulis, said he welcomed the injection of cash, but would have preferred £150,000, rather than £100,00 to go into events and activities.

He said: "The money is a welcome boost for the enhancement of Holton Road and will be used to attract shoppers into the town centre.

"If over a three-year period we had larger, quality events, this would bring new people to Holton Road and there would be a snowball effect. By the time the three years was up, the events would be established."

The traders have put forward their views to the council, and Mr Frangoulis added: "We have discussed having events before Easter, in the summer, during the autumn at the same time as the Tall Ships festival, and in November and December."

Mr Peter Foster, who has run Foster Shoes for 13 years, also welcomed the extra cash.

"I did know something about this from the traders' meetings. Any money coming into the town centre has got to be a good thing."

He added that he was keen to see the Vale Council improve Christmas lighting in future years, whether from the new funding or another source.

One item of expenditure earmarked under 'activities and events' is £5,000 towards a bespoke screen to protect the King Square Christmas tree.

Paul Haley, the chairman of Pride in Barry, hoped it would lead to new cultural and economic development.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the town's traders, community groups and associations to look at how to create festivals and events that will have the ability to grow into those not-to-be-missed cultural events that Barry could become known for.

"There are, and have been, many such festivals on the Welsh calendar, such as Brecon Jazz, Abergavenny Food Festival, Caerphilly Big Cheese, the National Eisteddfod, and Porthcawl's Elvis Weekend."

On a broader note. Mr Haley pointed out that other parts of the town should be providing events too.

"For instance, we could have the Barry Island Rock Festival, the Gavin & Stacey Beach Party, or the Waterfront Dinghy Race Sailing Weekend.

"I think this is a great time for anyone who thinks they have an idea, and can put together a plan and an organising team, to approach the Vale Council for support and assistance."

The Vale Council cabinet was considering the report as The GEM went to press.

Jay stars in a top TV drama

ABOVE: Barry actor Jay Ruckley.

YOUNG BARRY TV star Jay Ruckley has found fame, thanks to his successful BBC series Grandpa in My Pocket, which is a firm favourite with youngsters around the country – but now he is starring in one of Britain's most popular dramas.

Filming on the four episodes Jay appears in took place in Bristol throughout December and January and ended just a few days ago.

(To find out what the drama is, and who Jay worked with, turn to page 3).

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Young Alex is a real hero!

I FEEL I really should show my appreciation of your newspaper boy, Alex, who bravely delivered The GEM to us on January 7 and January 14, when we were completely snowed in and the roads and pavements were ice rinks.

Alex, helped by his sister Amy, managed to get around where others failed!

Well done Alex, I think you were a hero!

(A very grateful Llanblethian resident).

Footnote: The GEM heartily agrees. Alex is a Star!

The kind side of human nature!

ONE hears and reads so much these days about the bad and sad deeds that happen, it's a pleasure to read about a good deed.

I was delighted to read in The GEM about Mrs May Davies' 'saviour' who took her home on a sledge after her nasty fall.

I sincerely hope she is progressing well.

I, too, have reason to thank a stranger's kindness. Last year, I tripped and fell on the pavement in Eastgate, Cowbridge.

At the age of 90, I found difficulty in getting up – but help was at hand. Two ladies on the other side of the road saw what happened and ran across the road to help me.

Apart from a grazed knee and bruised arm, I was OK, but they would not leave me until they were sure.

I live in a small close of 10 houses and during the big 'freeze up' recently, the resident of each of those houses rang me to tell me on no account to even step outside. They would get anything I needed.

I think that is indeed kindness, don't you?

I always look forward to and enjoy your newspaper.

Eve Balfour, Llanblethian

Footnote: *Thank you, Mrs Balfour. We agree that acts of kindness do not always get the attention they deserve. If readers have other personal examples, we would be delighted to hear about them.*

Young people's Christian act

I WOULD like to express my gratitude to the three young people who came to my rescue late on Friday night outside the Edmondes Arms, Cowbridge.

I had damaged a wheel of my car in a pothole at Bonvilston and by the time I reached the lights in Cowbridge, the damage to the tyre was so severe the car could not be moved.

These three, two young men and a girl, immediately offered to change the wheel for me, which they did cheerfully and efficiently, and I was able to drive home safely.

It was a truly Christian act and we are fortunate to have such helpful young people in Cowbridge.

Mrs M Edwards, Llanblethian

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'St ATHAN PROJECT IS NOT PAST THE POINT OF NO RETURN...'

DEFENCE ACADEMY IN TORY MELTING POT?

IN last week's GEM, the headline comment by Vale MP John Smith that the '*MoD College is past the point of no return*' caused me to wonder why it was necessary for him to make that statement.

It is a fact that the MoD has not given the go-ahead for the construction, and will not do so until the summer of this year.

Other than the financial situation of the UK, why does six to nine months make any difference for such a decision to be made?

The difficulty that I have is that within the next 15 weeks or so, it is possible that the UK will have a Conservative government in power.

If so, the decision to give MoD St Athan the Academy will mean absolutely nothing.

Welsh Labour MP, Mr Don Touhig for Islwn, chaired the parliamentary committee which made the decision to allow the Academy to be set up in the Vale.

Readers will remember that it was between RAF St Athan and RAF Cosford, which is in Shropshire, and the MP for that area (called The Wrekin) is a Mr Mark Pritchard, who is a Conservative.

Many Conservative MPs supported Mr Pritchard in his disappointment.

Less than 12 months ago, Mr Smith and Mr Pritchard had a spat whereby Mr Smith accused Mr Pritchard of attempting to delay the project.

The scheme has been delayed and it will not be given any momentum until after the general election. By then, Mr Pritchard might well be in a more advantageous position if his party is in power, accepting of course, quite rightly, that Alun Cairns, together with the Welsh Conservatives, want the jobs the Academy will produce to arrive.

FMD Knill, Pendoylan

Defence Review could slash the MoD College

VALE MP John Smith blithely ignores the recession and public expenditure squeeze, including that on the MoD, which the National Auditor said in December was already living beyond its means (*ref 'MoD college past the point of no return' – says Vale MP John Smith, The GEM January 28*).

If Mr Smith had attended the current four-week public inquiry on the St Athan scheme, he would have heard that the PFI ('public finance initiative') funding for the Metrix-run College would cost 23 per cent more than a public funding alternative, according to the auditor's evidence to the House of Lords Inquiry into PFI.

He would have heard that the Strategic Defence Review may well cut the UK's standing forces and their training by 25 per cent, forcing the down-sizing, if not the collapse, of the Metrix scheme.

Of course, the downsized integrated military college may still be at St Athan, but within the boundaries of the old MoD base, as Llanmaes Community, Friends of the Earth, and many other local people are arguing (GEM letter January 21, by Coun Dafydd Stephens).

Max Wallis
(Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth)

Barry Lions' ABBA night was a blast!

THANKS for putting details of our Abba tribute night in last week's edition; the evening was a sell-out, every one enjoyed themselves, and we raised just under £900, which was brilliant – bearing in mind that the hall held the maximum of 80 people.

A cheque for £1,000 will be sent to the Lions Club International Fund (the balance being made up from Barry Lions' own charity account) to be used for the Haiti relief.

Every penny will be spent that way, as LCIF does not take administration costs from donations.

Barry Lions Club thanks everyone for their generosity. President Nanette, when thanking those present, mentioned that Barry Lions are actively seeking new members and anyone interested in joining would receive a warm welcome.

Our secretary is John Arbourn; telephone 02920 530114.

David Langford
(Barry Lions Club)

Thanks for raffle help

RHOOSE Friday Club committee would like to thank Steve (Rhoose newsagent) and Mary (steward at the Rhoose Social Club) for their help with the Christmas raffle – and wish them both a happy New Year!

Thank you, on behalf of Rhoose pensioners.

CT Nettleship, Rhoose

WRITE IN!
We welcome your views, send them to Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL ***or*** *ggem@internet-today.co.uk*

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL FEBRUARY 11)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
04 Thur	09.54	9.8	22.09	9.3
05 Fri	10.35	9.1	22.59	8.6
06 Sat	11.16	8.3	23.51	7.9
07 Sun			12.21	7.7
08 Mon	00.58	7.5	13.49	7.3
09 Tues	02.33	7.4	15.15	7.3
10 Wed	03.49	7.9	16.19	7.9
11 Thur	04.51	8.3	17.15	8.4

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HELPLINES
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National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
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Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0808 800 5000.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support -
Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 11.30am (Wed 4-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.

Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.

Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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Published by: Glamorgan GEM Limited, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge. CF71 7EL and printed by North Wales Newspapers.

Young Barry TV star Jay joins the cast of Casualty

by TIM CHAPMAN

YOUNG BARRY acting star Jay Ruckley is to feature in the hit BBC TV series Casualty in the spring.

Jay, aged 11, has acquired an impressive acting CV in the last three years and is recognised not only in south Wales for his TV and stage performances, but also when he travels abroad.

Jay told The GEM: "I'm in four episodes of *Casualty* which will be screened in April.

"The filming took place in Bristol from December 8 last year until January 23."

For the talented All Saints schoolboy, known internationally for his role of Jason Mason in the CBeebies series *Grandpa in My Pocket*, filming an adult drama is a new departure in his career.

"When I first began filming *Grandpa* it was a little bit scary, but as time has moved on I have felt more comfortable and relaxed – it makes it more fun.

"What made it so enjoyable on *Casualty* is that Tristan Gemmill, who plays Dr Adam Truman, and Derek Thompson, the show's longest serving actor, who plays Charlie, were so nice to work with.

"I play the part of nine-year-old Sam, whose parents are breaking up, and who feels neglected. In trying to help his mother, he spills hot water over his brother's arm.

"Last summer, I went for an audition with *Casualty* and heard nothing. Luckily, they remembered me when they were casting the role of Sam which was bigger than the part I originally went for."

Jay's mother Faye said: "Jay attends All Saints Church in Wales which has been really supportive.

"Mr Ware, the headteacher, really encourages the children at whatever they are good at.

"But if Jay is away filming, he has to keep up with school work and gets regular tutoring."

ABOVE: Jay during a break in filming with fellow Casualty star Tristan Gemmill, who plays Dr Adam Truman.

Away from television, Jay has also notched up a notable list of stage performances in *A Christmas Carol*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, and *Mary Poppins.*

The second series of *Grandpa in My Pocket* is due to be broadcast in February, and Jay will begin filming a third series in the summer.

"I'm looking forward to it because I get on so well with James Bolam who plays 'Grandpa'.

More than 2.5 million children have watched it and the Adastra production has been sold round the world – Jay was recognised recently on a trip to France!

Jay's agent Peter Wooldridge, who runs The Workshop, an acting school in Cardiff, explained that Jay's success is due to the fact that he has that 'x-factor' that producers are looking for.

"Jay ticks all the boxes – he's got a good look, fits the casting requirements and has a natural talent when it comes to performance.

"Once an actor has a good series behind them, it becomes a domino effect with more productions coming their way.

"The fact that Jay has got a guest role in an adult network drama over four episodes shows that he is moving in new directions."

Sully man's warning over control of dog

A Sully man, who was bitten by a dog, has contacted The GEM to alert the owner to keep it under control.

Mr James Beach, a keen rugby fan was making his way back to the village along the coastal path after watching the Ospreys v Leicester Heineken Cup match at the Seashore Grill on January 23.

"I'd just reached the rugby pitch by Sully Yacht Club when a man came along with three dogs. One of the dogs went behind me and nipped me at the top of the leg.

"The man said to me: 'Did he bite you?' and scolded the dog. He also asked if my trousers were all right.

"At the time it seemed no more than a nip."

Mr Beach's trousers were undamaged so he decided not to make a fuss and made his way home. But once home, he discovered his leg was bleeding and made a trip to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital at Llantrisant to get a tetanus jab and a course of antibiotics.

Mr Beach said he was anxious that the owner should know that the incident was more serious than it originally appeared.

"I am concerned that this incident happened very close to a children's playground and also close to a school.

"If this had happened to a child, the equivalent height would have been around their face.

"The owner obviously knows the dog more than me, and he seemed quite surprised and gave the impression it was the first time it had happened.

"I think he should seriously consider what action he should take to make sure it doesn't happen again."

Mr Beach believes that at the very least the dog should be kept under control on a lead.

Councillors' surgery

THE Vale and town councillors for Castleland Ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake and Karl Kuhnell will be holding their regular, monthly advice surgery on Saturday February 6, from 10:30am to 12pm in the Drop-In-Centre No3 Dunlin Court, Thompson Street Estate, Barry.

No appointment is necessary. Alternatively, contact Coun Chris Elmore on 07867 506 116.

Rhoose surgery

VALE councillors for Rhoose ward, Jeffrey James and Gordon Kemp, will be holding one of their regular advice surgeries on Saturday, February 6 at the Rhoose Community Hall in Stewart Road, from 10am-12noon. No appointment is necessary.

For further information, contact 01446 710690, or email at hjwjames@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Cutting IT by Sue

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116b Park Crescent, Barry

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Barry woman fined for benefit offences

A FORMER Barry woman has been ordered to pay more than £200 – after admitting unlawfully obtaining housing benefit.

In a case brought by the Vale of Glamorgan Council before magistrates at Barry, Sarah Fiona Rowe-Hillier, aged 40, and now of Carmarthen, admitted obtaining £2,346.

She was fined £100 and ordered to pay £100 prosecution costs, and a £15 victim surcharge at the rate of £40 per month.

The over-payment is also recoverable from Mrs Rowe-Hillier.

The court heard that the defendant vacated a house in Heol y Pothladd, Barry, but failed to notify the council. As a result, she continued to receive housing benefit for the property to which she was not entitled.

Mrs Rowe-Hillier was also given a 30-day prison sentence for failing to pay council tax, which was suspended subject to outstanding sums being repaid on a monthly basis.

Residents facing genuine difficulty with the payment of council tax, can contact the collection office on 01446 709564 to discuss payment.

PACT meetings

CASTLELAND PACT, Civic Offices, Holton Road Barry on February 8, at 7pm.

BUTTRILLS PACT, The Philip John Community Room, Barry Library, Kings Square on Wednesday 10th February, at 6.30pm.

For more information log onto www.ourbobby.com or call 02920 527361.

VALE AM'S SURGERY

VALE Assembly Member Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery on Friday, February 5 from 3.30pm-5.30pm at 115 High Street, Barry.

No appointment necessary. Please call 01446 740981 for more information.

Scout jumble

THE 1st Dinas Powys Scout Group jumble sale is at 1.30pm on Saturday, February 6 at the Scout Hall, Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys. Admission 40p.

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BOSCH LAND: OWNERSHIP IS HOT TOPIC FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Report by TIM CHAPMAN

The GEM's revelation that Bosch owns 200 acres of land in the Vale has been greeted with surprise and dismay in the nearby village of Pendoylan.

The village is little more than two miles away from the factory, but for the locals to whom the countryside is precious, news that at least 164 acres has industrial planning, and that it could be more, is a blow.

Jeanette Llewellyn, a resident of Pendoylan for 31 years and part caretaker of the village's primary school, said: "This is a green belt area where it is hard to get planning permission!

"Bosch have come here, people have worked for them, and then they say '*that's it*' and they are off to another country.

"In the meantime, they have bought a lot of acreage and could make money on it – it seems a nice investment for them."

Mrs Llewellyn highlighted the irony that for local people to get planning permission was no easy task, while a large company had got it over a large area of land.

The former deputy leader of the Vale Council, Tony Williams, has said South Glamorgan County Council granted planning on at least 164 acres, and last week, Bosch told The GEM: "*Bosch understands the strong interest in the land as it would be ideal for future development in the region.*

"*Due to its prime location, we have already been contacted by a large number of interested parties.*

"*Bosch will inform all relevant parties in due course once a decision on the future of the site or a potential sale is made.*"

Mr Dave Samuel of Home Farm, Hensol, said local people did not know the full facts surrounding what had been agreed on the land, and also pointed out that the location of the factory had been flawed from the outset, with many people having to travel to it from parts of the Rhondda.

"It would have been much more sensible to locate it in the area in which people live. The prospect of jobs is vital in this day and age, but it must be balanced with preserving the countryside.

"I despair at things like this, but the older I get, the more I realise that with big business, you can't beat them."

Mr Samuel said it seemed "crazy" that Bosch had obtained planning over such a large area of land, and pointed out the precedence given to the factory – the main road from the M4 leads down to Bosch, with the route into the Vale being a mere side road off it!

Mr Kami Soroush, owner of The New Red Lion Gastropub at the centre of Pendoylan, asked whether it was right that a company that was possibly leaving hundreds of people without jobs should profit from local land.

"Is it the action of a reputable company to leave with golden coins in their back pocket, if more than 800 people have lost jobs?" he questioned.

VALUABLE

Workers are still hoping for an eleventh hour reprieve, but Dr Ian Johnson, the Plaid Cymru parliamentary candidate for the Vale, expressed concern that planning permission may be granted for major developments if Bosch moves on.

He said: "The Bosch plant and its surrounding area are in a highly valuable location for developers – near to the M4 and in one of south Wales' most beautiful areas.

"If it is true that there is a large amount of land owned by Bosch, then it is likely to be up for sale soon and would make an obvious target for both industrial and housing development.

"While I would welcome continued use or re-developing of the Bosch factory area for industrial or mechanical work, and to replace the jobs that are sadly being lost, I would be opposed to large scale building in this greenfield site."

"Residents of Pendoylan and the Ely Valley recently fought a hard-won battle against the area being used for an airport link road that would have seen large amounts of green fields going under tarmac and the area's character destroyed.

"I was very glad when Business and Transport Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones, backed their campaign and refused the airport link through the rural Vale," he added.

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Councillor in line for scrutiny award

BARRY councillor, Rob Curtis, has been shortlisted as one of five UK councillors for a prestigious Scrutineer of the year Award and will be nominated as 'Councillor of the Year' if he wins that category.

Coun Rob Curtis is the only councillor from Wales to have been shortlisted.

"Scrutiny is fundamental to accountability and decision making; to ensure that the right decisions are made for communities and highlight where things may be done differently," explained Coun Curtis.

Although an opposition councillor and not even a chair or vice-chair of any of the scrutiny committees, he has been influential in several positive policy changes made by the council.

PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB NEWS

Packed programme ahead for members

NOW that the weather is not so severe, we can get on with the programme approved at the AGM – we aim to move with the times.

Members have not enthused about the social websites such as Twitter, Facebook or Bebo, but they do use the internet quite a bit for browsing all sorts of topics.

Researching the family tree is a popular pastime and more people are becoming interested in setting up a personal website – possibly to show the results of their searches. They will also want to be able to set out their results in an attractive way using appropriate software.

Whatever they do, they will want to do it on a secure computer, free of interference from invasion or viruses.

On February 9, we will be looking at the groundwork to setting up a personal or family website.

The following meeting will look at the general security issues to keep your computing free from interference and spam.

Then we shall examine Microsoft Office 2007 before we are swamped with advertisements to buy Office 2010, so that we will be able to see the differences and make an informed choice.

Next will be a return to website design to talk about how to build the site.

In April, we will see where all the family history information comes from and how your computer can do a lot of the work for you.

There will be a talk to look at the basics of spreadsheets; enough to explain just how much it is possible to do with them and how useful they can be if mathematics is not your strong point.

In May, we shall have an evening exploring aspects of digital photography; home video and such. Another evening will be spent looking at Windows 7 (again) to see if it is living up to its early promise after six months.

Many households are now using several computers. We look in June at how to go about setting up a home network to let them talk to each other, and how to protect such a home network from the wider world.

At the end of June, we will enjoy our social Chips and Chat Night.

On July 13, we will be holding an open evening as part of the Penarth Holiday Festival.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 9 when Chris will be talking about planning and creating your own web site. Visitors and new members always welcome.

For more information, telephone Howard on 029 2070 8439.

HD

SULLY BRIDGE CLUB BACK ON TRACK AFTER ICE AND SNOW

ABOVE: The new Sully Bridge Club committee for 2010 is Evarard Kerslake scorer and catering, Mal Frieze, chairperson, Sean Macdougall, secretary, Anne Macdougall, committee, Val Hetheridge, treasurer, Audrey Eves, committee and Doug Claxton, the president.

SULLY Bridge Club was forced to cancel a number of events due to the ice and snow, but on its return 64 members turned up to play.

The latest winners were N/S Celia and Huw Thomas; E/W Mary and Peter Blackwell.

The new Sully Bridge Club committee for 2010 had been named: Evarard Kerslake, scorer and catering, Mal Frieze, chairperson, Sean Macdougall, secretary, Anne Macdougall, committee, Val Hetheridge, treasurer, Audrey Eves, committee and Doug Claxton the president.

The club continues to thrive and now has 102 members.

AM's backing for 'vital' Crossroads day service

A VITAL day service, which provides support for carers at the Bryneithin Home in Dinas Powys must be safeguarded, Plaid Cymru AM Chris Franks has demanded.

Mr Franks said the fantastic service provided by the Crossroads scheme must not be affected by any decision to close the home.

Crossroads looks after 14 clients a day in Dinas Powys, providing 364 days a year service on all bar Christmas Day, laying on lunches and meals and allowing carers to make lives of their own outside caring.

They bring clients from Penarth and Barry to Bryneithin and are open until 5pm four days a week, allowing carers to work.

Mr Franks, who represents South Wales Central, said he had written to the Vale Council to seek an assurance that the service would continue.

"Bryneithin is an ideal site for this service because it is between Penarth and Barry, and any move out of Dinas Powys would inevitably mean more travel and more costs.

"But much more important is the fantastic service provided by Crossroads which allows people to maintain a life outside caring. I've been made aware that Crossroads has been told that they are safe for the time being, but I want the Vale Council to clarify the position as soon as possible.

"There has been no indication of what will happen to the building used by Crossroads but Plaid believes it should be kept open," added Mr Franks.

In a letter to Mr Franks, Dorothy Turner, the Vale cabinet member for social services, said that officers from social services had maintained a dialogue with Crossroads about the future of the service, and that discussions would continue.

She said that a day service review had highlighted the importance of the service provided by Crossroads.

Weavers Guild

THE Glamorgan Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers is holding a meeting on Wednesday, February 10, at 7.30pm at Old School, Sully.

Jane Nicholls will be demonstrating 'Tassel making'.

For further information, telephone Jane on 029 2062 4834.

TV switchover starts on 3 March.

Questions? Call 08456 50 50 50 (English language), 08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language).

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Chicken Biryani £5.75
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VEGETARIAN
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Paneer Pasanda (N) (V) £4.50

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Served with fresh salad and mint sauce
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Tandoori Duck £5.95
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Tandoori Platter £7.50
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'Llandough Hospital should get tough with the drivers who take disabled bays' – AM

LLANDOUGH HOSPITAL should consider fining people who abuse disabled parking bays by taking places allocated for blue badge holders, a regional Assembly member has told The GEM.

Chris Franks AM explained: "Plaid believes that they may need to consider following some supermarkets, including Tesco in Cardiff, who employ a private company. They impose fines on those that ignore the signs and park in a disabled person's bay.

"If people receive fines the message will soon get around that action will be taken. Unless they do get tougher than this, the problem will continue.

"It is important that car parking is properly managed. This can sometimes be a problem in Llandough village with overflow parking from the hospital."

The issue came to light during correspondence between Mr Franks and the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board.

He originally wrote to the health authorities after hearing about concerns over the number of disabled bays provided.

Chief executive of the health board, Jan Williams, said that it had increased the number of blue badge permit holder parking spaces at Llandough ,and it exceeded the recommended level under the Disability Discrimination Act by two per cent.

But she added: "Regrettably, there is widespread abuse of blue badge usage with designated spaces being blocked by able-bodied visitors or patients.

"The UHB's car parking staff are being directed to challenge the identity of such users, but you will appreciate that it is a continuing problem."

Jan Williams said that the UHB was continuing to review car parking related matters to benefit patients and visitors through its car parking strategy group and car parking operational group.

Mr Franks said: "The health authorities need to ensure that only those drivers that have blue badges park in disabled bays."

Mr Mike Spencer, the general manager for facilities at the hospital, said: "We apologise for any inconvenience to patients and staff at the University Hospital of Llandough.

"We appreciate parking on site can be difficult, especially with the major building developments.

"However, the number of Blue Badge permit holder parking spaces has increased, in particular adjacent to the CAVOC Unit and in the visitor/patient car park."

He added: "We have looked into the option of issuing fines to those who abuse the Blue Badge bays but felt this was not a viable option at present.

"However, we have asked our security staff to redirect their efforts to manage the Blue Badge areas and we are reminding members of the public of their responsibilities to park in appropriate, allocated areas."

VALE ROADWORKS

Weston Square tunnel, Cardiff Road, Barry – road closure.
Plassey Street, junctions with Glebe Street/Albert Road, Penarth – carriageway width restrictions.
Pontypridd Street – junction with Mount Pleasant – footway restriction in place.
Barry road junction with Court Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.
A4231 Barry Docks Link Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.
Gileston Road, St Athan – temporary traffic control.
Cowbridge by-pass viaduct – temporary speed limit.
Boverton Road junction with Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major – temporary traffic control.

Warning parents on internet safety

JANE HUTT, AM for the Vale, recently met Penny Steinhauer, Director of I-PAT which promotes parental awareness on internet safety for children.

"The I-PAT concept has been developed as a result of research carried out to make parents aware of the dangers and to help them with easily understandable solutions," the AM said.

"Although there are great opportunities for educational development with the internet, it is important that parents are aware of the dangers and risks as well, particularly relating to cyber bullying and access to inappropriate websites.

"The I –pact initiative is an excellent example of how we can work together to understand and handle these risks and I welcomed the opportunity to meet Penny, a member of the Vale Business Women's Network, to learn more about their training courses which are being promoted across Wales."

'CAPTAIN JACK' SETS TY HAFAN TIME CAPSULE

TIME traveller Captain Jack Harkness, aka John Barrowman, popped into Ty Hafan on January 22 to help place a time capsule to mark the end of its 10th anniversary year.

John Barrowman with young Jack Thomas and his mum Jo in the Adolescent Den at Ty Hafan.

The BBC Torchwood and Dr Who star has chosen to support Ty Hafan and encourages his fans to make donations through his website. Together with his family, he also appeared on ITV's All Star Family Fortunes to raise money for the charity.

"It was very good of John to come along to help us place the time capsule, and also to give us his very influential support," said chairman of trustees Robert Lewis.

"Ty Hafan and its services have developed quickly over the 10 years we have been open and we were anxious to record all the important events that have happened during that time, as well as give a 'snapshot' impression of how Ty Hafan is today.

"The first time capsule placed in the chimney in our reception area is to be opened on our 25th anniversary The second, to be opened on our 50th anniversary, was buried in the grounds."

Mr Lewis added: "The information and objects we have placed in the capsules cover all aspects of Ty Hafan, including our care services and fundraising activities, which I am sure will provide an interesting insight into how we started and have developed in the first 10 years.

Penarth Computer Club make a PACT!

IS the Tardis from the past or the future? Who knows? It is a wonderful device to bring the fantasy of Dr Who's life to the point that children can identify with it - in spite of the fact that they will never have seen a real police telephone box.

The actual development has been the reverse. Instead of everything being able to fit into the Tardis, the police box has become small enough to fit into a pocket.

The pockets belong to Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) who are helping adults relate to police work by getting involved with the local community. The phones are used to call for assistance or pass on information.

Jenna is such a PCSO. She and her colleague, James, came to explain how they work and how they can help.

They talked to the members of the computer club about their police duties, methods of work, and their objectives. They gave a tour of the website 'ourbobby.com'. James is the marketing officer and was obliged to justify his existence, which he did with energy and enthusiasm. He and Jenna set out the main features of their work and invited discussion.

Blunt questions were asked about the little local difficulties that abound and members were pleasantly surprised to get positive answers. Each PCSO is assigned a specific area and they organise PACT (Partnerships And Communities Together) meetings with the local community.

Everyone is encouraged to attend. Any local issues are identified and a range of actions discussed. Three priority items are noted and progress on dealing with them is reported back at a future meeting.

In this way, the PCSO can act as the eyes and ears of the community. To further the togetherness between themselves and the people they serve, they have started a 'bobbyknocking' scheme, whereby they will be visiting every house, street by street, to get to know the residents.

The next meeting will be on February 9, when Chris will be talking about planning and creating your own web site. Visitors and new members always welcome. For more information telephone 029 20708439.

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Surgery Notice

Andrew Davies AM

David Melding AM

Andrew and David are holding surgeries at their office, 29 High Street, Barry from 10am-11.30am
No booking necessary!

Andrew Davies AM	David Melding AM
Friday 5th February	Friday 12th February
Friday 19th February	Friday 5th March
Friday 12th March	Friday 19th March
Friday 26th March	

Alternatively, you can write to Andrew or David at:
National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA

Andrew Davies: Email: andrewrt.davies@wales.gov.uk
Tel: 02920 898523

David Melding: Email: david.melding@wales.gov.uk
Tel: 02920 898732

Barry Youth Speaks and 'impress judges'

THE Barry Rotary Youth Speaks competition was hosted by Jenny Ford, head of English, at the Barry Comprehensive.

Four junior teams competed and also two senior teams. The junior competition was won by Aimee Delaney, Lissie Wallington, and Kathryn Gardner of Bryn Hafren for the third year in a row, with their debating topic of 'Killer Custard Creams and a Crackdown on Conkers – we are becoming a nation of Health and Safety Psychopaths', which had the audience entranced!

The runners-up were Hawys Davies, Rhys James, and Lewis Harrison of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg debating 'This House believes that Television Shows have a Negative Effect on Society'.

Other competitors were Rhys Edwards, Conor Noyes, and James Rees of Barry Comprehensive, and Owen Young, Robin Tait, and Leah Robinson of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg.

Two teams competed for the senior award in a close contest, which was won by Rosie-Loup James, Lili-Beth James, and Hannah Parker of Bryn Hafren debating 'This House Believes that a Baby is a Blessing, not a Right'.

Runners-up were Jarred Cornish, George Scott, and Caelum Davies debating 'This House believes that Junk Food should be banned in Schools across Wales'.

Judges were Terry Brooks, Don Tonne, and chairman Graeme Milne of Cardiff Speakers Club. Graeme spoke for the judges and gave helpful advice for future contests.

Both winning teams will now go on to the next stage to be held at the Novotel Hotel, Cardiff Bay, on Wednesday, February 10.

In summing up, Don Carsley, president of Barry Rotary Club, said that he congratulated the winners, but that all of the participants had distinguished themselves, simply by competing.

ABOVE: AIMEE DELANEY, LISSIE WALLINGTON AND KATHRYN GARDNER WIN JUNIOR YOUTH SPEAKS.

ROSIE-LOUP JAMES, LILI-BETH JAMES AND HANNAH PARKER WIN SENIOR YOUTH SPEAKS.

HIGH STREET GOES 'RED DRAGON CRAZY'!

BARRY'S High Street has gone 'Red Dragon' crazy with hundreds of colourful Welsh flags decorating it in time to celebrate St David's Day and the start of the Six Nations Rugby Championship

Anthony Hopkins, chairman of High Street Traders, explained: "After we took down our Christmas lights, the street looked really bare – so we've decided to redecorate!

"As part of our St David's Day celebrations, and in conjunction with the Six Nations Championship, we've decorated the street in a Welsh way.

"With the help of local schools we're aiming to raise awareness of St David and our Welsh nationality. We have put together four competitions, word search, flag colouring, best dressed Welsh girl/boy and a shop window competition.

"We've been in touch with the Welsh Rugby Union and are hopeful that we will be able to offer some great prizes for the competition winners."

People were out early on Sunday morning to 'dress up' High Street.

Anthony added: "I must say a big thank you to the usual volunteers who gave up yet another Sunday, Tony's Cafe for keeping us fed and watered, and a special thank you to HSS Hire Wales.

"Not only did they supply us with a cherry picker, but two hard-working lads, who I'm sure had better things to do on a freezing cold Sunday!"

Mr Darren Gratton, the general manager of HSS Hire South Wales, said:

"We're pleased to be able to help High Street and are keen to support raising the awareness of our nationality in local schools"

ABOVE: Volunteers arrived in High Street early on Sunday morning to put up the 'Red Dragon' display.

ABOVE: Hundreds of Welsh flags now adorn the popular Barry thoroughfare in time to celebrate St David's Day and the start of the Six Nations Championship.

Local woman calls on council to change its burials policy

A BARRY woman claims that the Town Council should revise its policy on charging for burials.

Currently, if someone from Barry requires burial locally the charge is £800, but if it is someone from outside the town the charge is £2,400.

However, last week in The GEM Jayne Van Praag's daughter Rebecca highlighted what she thought was a serious anomaly.

Jayne lived in the town for most of her life, devoted much of her working life to local schools, but left Barry in 2005 to live with her partner in Narberth, Pembrokeshire.

She died of cancer in 2009 and her wish was to be buried in Barry. Jayne's family were charged £2,400 despite an appeal pointing out that the vast majority of her life had been spent in the town.

The council commented: "The council has taken the view that consideration will be given to those former residents of Barry who have had to leave the area to obtain nursing or medical care, in the four to five years prior to them passing away, that cannot be provided in Barry."

Rebecca told The GEM this week that she was unhappy with Barry Town Council's response: "Surely there should be some sort of a concession. It seems very excessive that my mother was charged triple the rate for someone in Barry.

"I can understand that they want to charge more than the £800, but to pay three times the amount?

"It is unfair and I think there should be some change in the rules. It could happen to anybody."

Barry Town Council said it would not be adding to its comments of last week.

• If readers have a view on this issue, contact The GEM.

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A PILGRIMAGE FOR LOCAL AIR CADETS

LEFT: The cadets pictured on their solemn trip, paying homage to those who lost their lives in two world wars.

AIR CADETS from 372 (Barry) Squadron Steph Blake, Ryan Morse, George Lazenbury, Peter Pemberton, Rhys Thomas, Vanessa Lazenbury, Paige Evans and Nathaniel Spragg, along with cadets from Caerleon and Caerphilly, recently travelled to Europe to pay homage to those who lost their lives fighting for their countries in the two world wars.

*A spokesperson reports: The visit took place ove*r a long weekend in October and encompassed the war memorials and battlefields of Ypres Salient in Belgium, and those of the Somme, in France.

The cadets stayed as guests of the Belgium Army in Ypres and were able to witness members of the local fire brigade performing the moving 'Last Post' ceremony at the Menin Gate.

As a sign of respect, Cadet Steph Blake laid a poppy wreath on behalf of the Squadron.

Cadet Peter Pemberton said: "We also went to Dunkirk to see where the evacuations took place. When you stand on the beach, it's amazing to think that in May 1940, all those people came in all sorts of boats, big and small to save the Servicemen and to try to get them home."

Of course, the cadets are fully aware of the consequences for war for every nation involved and they also made time to pay their respects at the Canadian War Memorial, Vimy Ridge, 38th Welsh Division Memorial, Mametz Wood and the memorial at Thiepval, which is dedicated to the 73,367 missing men of the Somme.

The cadets also paid their respects to the war dead at the following cemeteries: Tyne Cot, Passchendaele, and Langemarck.

Officer Commanding 372 Squadron, Flight Lieutenant Jayne Hillard, concluded: "It was a very busy few days with an enormous amount of travelling. However, the cadets all felt that it was a worthwhile and emotional experience.

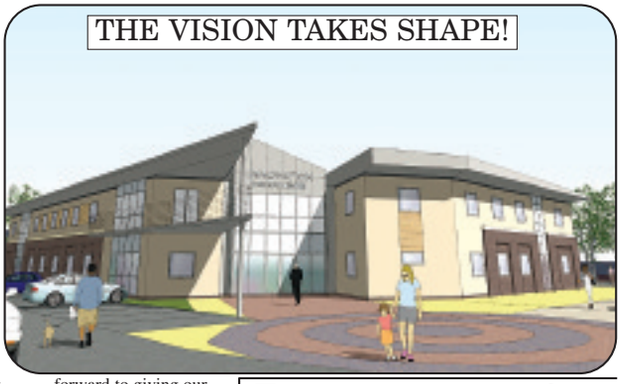
"Seeing the battlefields and memorials at first hand, brings history closer to our present and not just left in the past. These men who died for their counties will not be forgotten by these cadets".

The Air Cadets are now looking forward to an action-packed and challenging training programme including flying, gliding, shooting, sport, Duke of Edinburgh awards, leadership training and aviation related visits.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13-18 years old. The Squadron parades on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm - 9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall) or you can contact the Squadron on 01446 747734 or email 372@aircadets.org for more information.

WORK STARTS ON BARRY'S £4 MILLION MEDICAL CENTRE

RIGHT: Artist's impression of the state-of-the-art medical centre that is being built at Barry Waterfront , and ends the long wait for new premises for High Street Family Practice.



WORK on a new state-of-the-art medical centre for Barry has now begun in the Innovation Quarter at Barry Waterfront.

The £4 million 22,000 sq ft facility is being built on behalf of the High Street Family Practice. The practice, which currently operates from three converted shop premises on the High Street, has been seeking premises for more than five years now.

Dr Keith Holgate, senior partner at High Street, said: "Having outgrown our existing premises we are delighted that we can now look forward to giving our patients the facilities they deserve. It has been long overdue and we look forward to working closely with Matrix and the contractors over the coming months to make it the best practice in the Vale."

Phase one of the proposed medical centre includes the construction of a new spine road to access the medical centre, which is nearing completion. This was part-funded by the Welsh Assembly and the Vale Council and will also improve access to the existing BSC and Skills Centre developments.

Barry to receive flood funding

VALE Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, has welcomed European funding for a flood prevention scheme in Barry – but is disappointed that Boverton and Llanmaes missed out.

A total of £45,000 has been allocated to fund the Coldbrook flood alleviation project following the 2007 floods which swept through large parts of Barry.

The AM said: "I was very disappointed that other programmes were not approved by the Programme Board, including the Boverton Culvert, the Llanmaes scheme and other projects.

"I have asked for the reasons why these other bids were rejected and have requested a meeting with the Minister Jane Davidson and the Vale Council to clarify why the bids were unsuccessful, and to discuss a way forward to secure funding for the Vale schemes.

"The Minister has agreed to a meeting which is now being arranged. I hope there will be other avenues for the funding of these schemes."

Raising a piece of wartime aviation history

THE story of how one of the last four Sunderland flying boats in the world is being raised from under 60 feet of water off Pembroke dock after being lost for half a century, will be told at a meeting of the Penarth Aviation Society tomorrow.

Used during the war to hunt down enemy U-boats and guard the western coast, it sank at dock one stormy night in 1940, and was swept away by underwater currents.

Recently found by divers, the engine has now been raised and the rest will follow – to eventually take its place in the Sunderland Trust Museum in Pembroke Dock.

The illustrated talk will be given by Mr John Evans, project manager for the Pembroke Dock Sunderland Trust and an aviation historian.

It is free to visitors and new members will be welcome.

The meeting will be in the Penarth Conservative Club building, oppposite the station square, on February 5 at 7.45pm for 8pm.

JUMBLE SALE FOR HAITI

MEMBERS of St Peter's Women's Fellowship in Dinas Powys were so moved by the reports and images of the Haiti earthquake, that they have decided to hold a jumble sale at 2pm on Saturday, February 13, at St Peter's Church Hall, Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

The leader of the women's fellowship, Mrs Beattie French, told The GEM that she hoped residents of the Vale would support the jumble sale generously.

Items for sale should be brought to the church hall on the Saturday morning, preferably before 10am. (Electrical goods cannot be sold).

Refreshments will be served in the church hall during the sale.

'Take me to your lieder'

AT 7.30pm tomorrow (February 5) in St Hilary Church, a group of Minnesingers will perform Minnesäng, traditional 12th-14th century German lyric songs – from the High German word minne, meaning love, the main subject in this tradition.

Contact Simon Lait (01446 771842) for more details.

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NEWS FROM PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Tragic history of the Welsh mines is recalled

RECENTLY Geraint Thomas played host to a group of ten walkers who joined him at the miners' memorial in the village of Senghenydd, where they were reminded of some tragic events in the history of the coal mining area.

Because of the vast number of pits in the south Wales valleys it was inevitable that disasters would occur, mainly because of poor safety procedures, out of date machinery and lack of training.

In those days there was no health and safely protection and time after after time, the valleys were shaken with grief as men lost their lives in successive disasters.

The worst of these took place at the 'Universal Mine' in Senghenydd, the first coal mine in the Aber valley that had been in production for just 18 months.

At 5.30am on May 29, 1901, when the night shift were about to finish, three explosions, which could be heard over three miles away, ripped the top of the shaft and 78-men were buried alive as huge rock falls and leaking gas prevented their escape.

Twelve years later on October 14, 1913 just after 8am, and only two hours into the morning shift an explosion followed by fire ripped through the underground tunnels of the same pit and 400 were trapped underground.

The explosion was heard in Cardiff 11-miles away and members of the old Glamorgan Constabulary who had no training, set about dealing with the situation. Rescuers battled for days to recover the wounded and dead.

It took a month to recover all the bodies and the final tragic total was 439 dead including 69 teenagers and 162 young men in their twenties.

The managers and owners were prosecuted following the second tragedy as the safety recommendations following the first explosion had not been implemented and the conditions the men were working in had in fact worsened!

The manager was fined a paltry £24 and charges against the owner were dropped. Upon appeal the final insult came when the owner was found guilty and fined only £10 and 5-guineas costs. The pit was worked for another 15 years until it closed in 1928 and the memorial to the victims of the disaster was not erected in the village until 1981.

Heading out of the village and uphill by a noisy stream the group headed towards Senghenydd Dyke, a medieval bank and ditch that runs for almost 12km between Llanbradach and Senghenydd.

Blue skies and low winter sun meant it was warm enough for a coffee break on a rocky outcrop as buzzards flew from fence posts into the clear air, while down below them Caerphilly Castle was peeping out through the mist.

Passing a dark conifer plantation they reached a coal tip, a black twin-peaked mountain now used by local lads as a scramble course for their motor bikes. Circling the end of the valley they looked back onto the higgledy-piggledy terraced streets of this once thriving coal mining area where the only flat ground was where the pit had stood.

Then finally it was a return back downhill through a muddy farm, past barking dogs to follow the disused railway track back to Senghenydd.

On February 7, meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 9-mile moderate walk in the Wye Valley; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Community hall needs new blood in Rhoose

A WELL-USED community hall in Rhoose needs new blood on its management committee – or it could close.

The Celtic Way Community Centre in Rhoose will be holding its annual general meeting on February 24, but one key item on the agenda will be the need for new committee members.

Hilary Evans and Maureen Chislett are both strong supporters of the centre, but they are worried because a key member of the committee is to step down.

Maureen told The GEM: "For the last 20 years, Mr David Harris has been an absolute stalwart at the centre.

"He has been chair, secretary, treasurer and caretaker!"

Hilary said: "David was ill for about three weeks a while ago, and it became obvious that the centre had become too reliant on his good will."

The ladies explained that it was time that the work was shared out among a number of volunteer committee members. The centre is run by the Celtic Way Community Association (Font y Gary) – a registered charity.

The management committee are its trustees and they meet at least eight times a year.

Members need to be over 18 and live locally.

Maureen said: "We are worried because without a management committee, the centre could close, and it is currently used by a playgroup, a slimming class, martial arts, for dance lessons, young at heart, youth club and as a church."

David Harris told The GEM that he would be staying in touch with the centre, and that he would be happy to advise new committee members.

He added: "It would be nice to see different people occupying different posts on the committee."

The annual meeting is on February 24, at 7.30pm, at Celtic Way Community Centre. Contact David Harris (01446 711300) or Hilary Evans (01446 711192) for details.

PACT meetings

COURT PACT surgery, The HUB, YMCA Court Road, Barry on February 15, between 5pm and at 7pm.

GIBBONSDOWN AND DYFAN joint PACT surgery, Colcot Community Centre, Keats Way on February 16, between 10am and 1pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT, The Community First Office, Aberaeron Close, Barry on February 16, at 2pm.

WENVOE Coffee and Chat meeting, Wenvoe Arms on February 9, at 11.30am.

RHOOSE PACT, Celtic Way Community Centre on February 16, at 7pm.

SULLY PACT, Jubilee Hall on February 11, at 8pm.

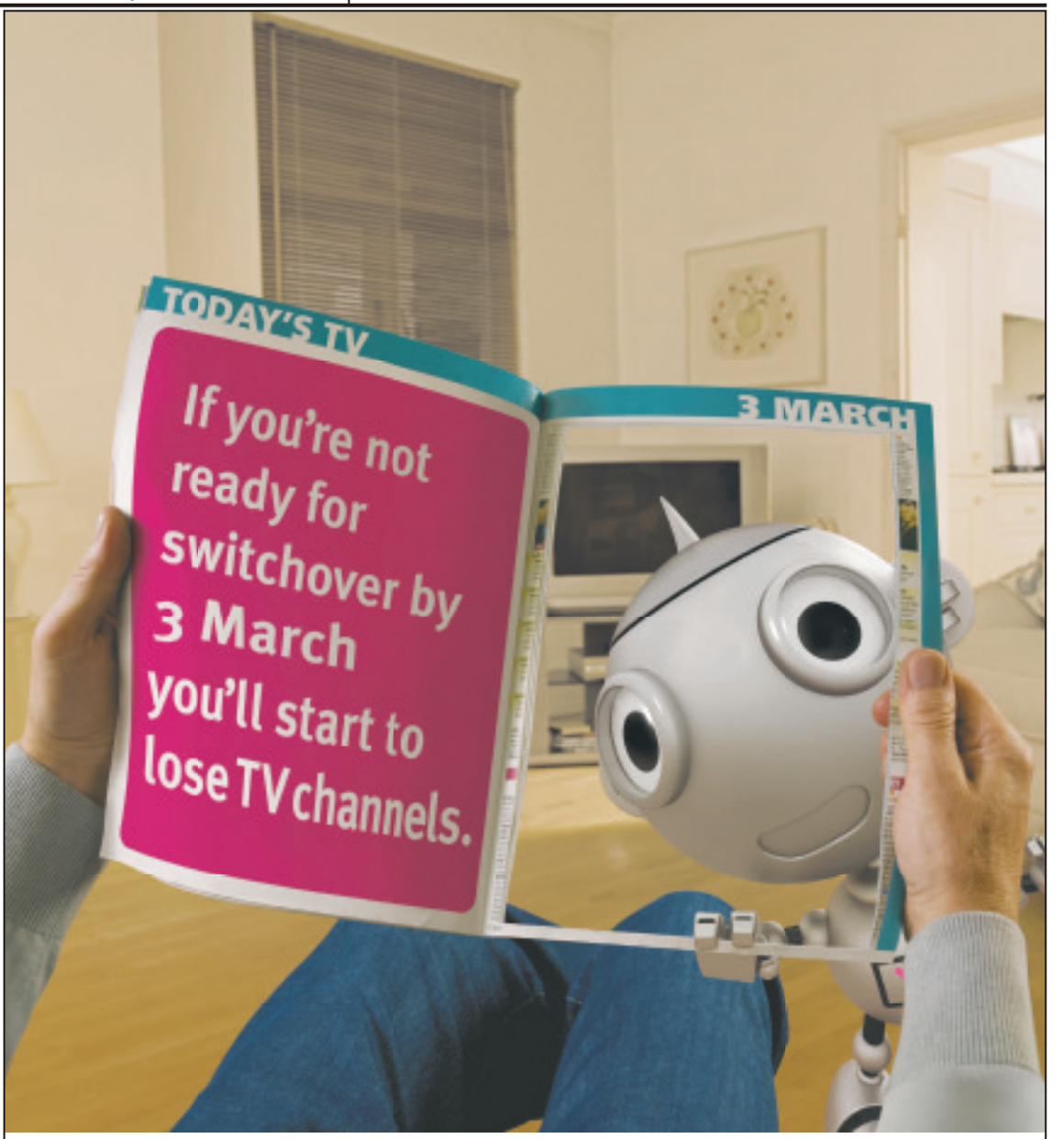
If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing team on 029 2052 7361 or log onto www.ourbobby.com

Coffee morning for charity

THE Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's charity coffee morning is being held at the Corporate Suite, Civic Office, Holton Road, Barry, on Tuesday, February 9 from 10.30am-12noon.

All proceeds will go to Cardiff and Vale Breastfriends.

Read your Glamorgan GEM online: www.barry-today.co.uk



On 3 March any TV that is not ready to receive a digital signal will start losing channels at switchover – BBC Two will be the first to go. Then on 31 March the remaining analogue channels will be switched off and the rest of the digital services launched.

Questions? Call 08456 50 50 50 (English language) or 08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language) or visit digitaluk.co.uk

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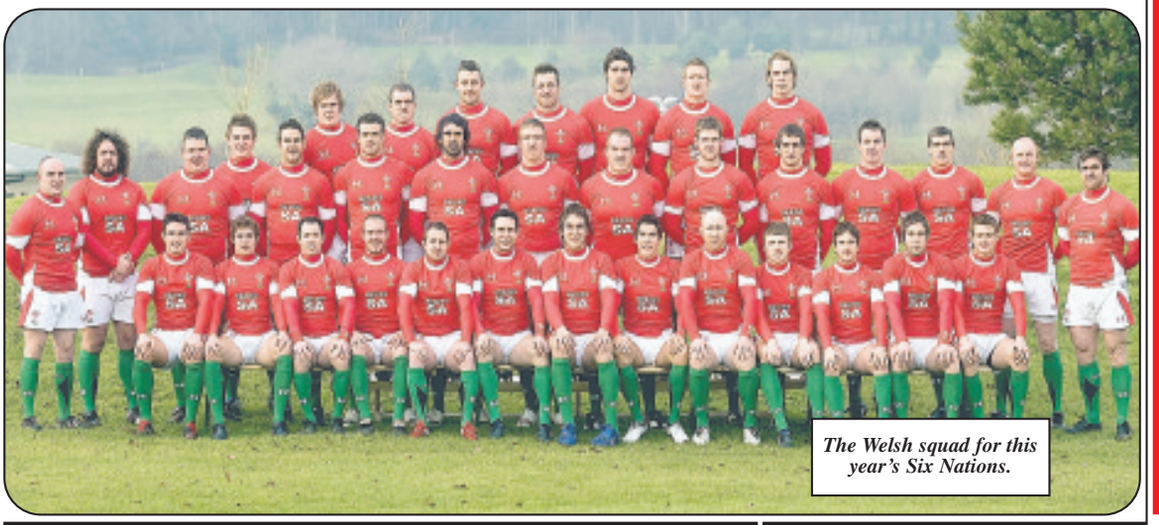

The Welsh squad for this year's Six Nations.

RBS Six Nations tournament kicks off this weekend...

...and Welsh eyes will be firmly fixed on Twickenham as Warren Gatland's men aim for a fourth straight win over England, and the perfect start to their Six Nations campaign. With three games at the Millennium Stadium, a victory could be a platform on which to build, and possibly lead to a third Grand Slam in six years - here's hoping! See The GEM's preview on the back page.

DATE	KO	HOME		AWAY	VENUE
Saturday, February 6	2.30pm	Ireland	v	Italy	Croke Park
Saturday, February 6	5pm	England	v	**WALES**	Twickenham
Sunday, February 7	3pm	Scotland	v	France	Murrayfield
Saturday, February 13	2pm	**WALES**	v	Scotland	Millennium Stadium
Saturday, February 13	4.30pm	France	v	Ireland	Stade de France
Sunday, February 14	2.30pm	Italy	v	England	Stadio Flaminio
Friday, February 26	8pm	**WALES**	v	France	Millennium Stadium
Saturday, February 27	1.30pm	Italy	v	Scotland	Stadio Flaminio
Saturday, February 27	4pm	England	v	Ireland	Twickenham
Saturday, March 13	2.30pm	Ireland	v	**WALES**	Croke Park
Saturday, March 13	5pm	Scotland	v	England	Murrayfield
Sunday, March 14	2.30pm	France	v	Italy	Stade de France
Saturday, March 20	2.30pm	**WALES**	v	Italy	Millennium Stadium
Saturday, March 20	5pm	Ireland	v	Scotland	Croke Park
Saturday, March 20	7.45pm	France	v	England	Stade de France

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Moules Marinere - *Mussels in a white wine and garlic broth served with two slices of crusty organic bloomer.*
Blue Cheese & Walnut Souffle - *Served with salad leaves, roasted cherry tomatoes finished with a balsamic glaze.*
~
Blackcurrant Sorbet
~
Lovers Spaghetti Bolognaise - *Quality beef mince in a rich tomato bolognaise sauce on a mound of spaghetti served with garlic bread.*
Sirloin of Beef - *Tender roast sirloin of beef served with fondant potatoes and hollandaise sauce.*
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Sat, 20th February - THE FISHERMEN
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College lights a candle to mark the Holocaust Memorial Day

BARRY College commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27, when a lit candle was placed in reception at the college's main sites in Colcot Road, the Cardiff Construction Training Centre and the International Centre for Aerospace Training.

Display boards were also put up at each site with posters, facts and information for students to take away, spokesman Chris Baker reported.

Further information and films about the Holocaust were also uploaded onto Moodle, the college's student intranet. The college's Welsh Baccalaureate learners watched the film and discussed genocide and its impact, before writing film scripts and director's notes for a piece about Holocaust Memorial Day.

The college's vice-principal Kay Martin, said: "Every year, Holocaust Memorial Day urges everyone to pause and reflect upon what can happen when racism, prejudice and exclusionary behaviour are allowed to go unchecked.

"It is vital that we recognise how we can learn from the lessons of the past and how they can play a part in our communities today.

"Holocaust Memorial Day commemorates the tragic loss of life in the genocides of the Second World War and more recently in Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia and Darfur.

"It presents an opportunity for people to honour the innocent victims of such conflicts, while providing education opportunities to try to prevent future acts of mass murder.

"Genocide does not just happen. It starts when we no longer celebrate and respect the differences between us."

Holocaust Memorial Day was marked on January 27 – the 65th anniversary of the day that the Soviet Army liberated the largest Nazi death camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau, where millions of Jews died.

THE FIRST MINISTER GIVES HIS BACKING TO 'LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ' PROJECT

STUDENTS from across Wales will visit Auschwitz-Birkenau in March, to learn about the history of the Holocaust and its impact on the world we live in today.

The 'Lessons From Auschwitz Project' is run by the Holocaust Educational Trust which received an £80,000 grant from the Welsh Assembly Government to fund, over time, two students between the ages of 16 and 18, from every school and college in Wales, to take part in the project.

The four-part course consists of two seminars, a one-day visit to Poland and a special project which gives students the opportunity to pass on the lessons they have learned to fellow students and the communities they live in.

First Minister Carwyn Jones AM said: "It's important that we are able to support this project. It is vital that we remember on Holocaust Memorial Day what can happen if prejudice and discrimination go unchecked. These lessons are as relevant today as they were 60 years ago."

Education Minister, Leighton Andrews, said: "This project gives students the opportunity to learn about a harrowing but crucial chapter of European history.

"Lessons From Auschwitz gives young people the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge of what happened during this terrible period. The scale and devastation of the Holocaust should never be forgotten."

Karen Pollock, chief executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust said: "We are delighted that the Welsh Assembly Government has recognised the value of the 'Lessons from Auschwitz Project'.

"We look forward to working with them to give Welsh students the opportunity to take part in this unique educational opportunity.

"The project gives students the chance to hear a Holocaust survivor share their testimony, take part in a one-day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau, and consider the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust.

"We hope that as a result, Welsh students will become ambassadors in their own communities, raising awareness of the past and challenging prejudice and racism today," he concluded.

Bridgend MP signs House of Commons 'book of commitment'

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon pledged her support for Holocaust Memorial Day by signing a Book of Commitment in the House of Commons to honour those who perished under the Nazis.

"With January 27 marking the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration and extermination camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Holocaust Educational Trust placed the book of commitment in the Commons/.

"It gives MPs the opportunity to remember those who were persecuted and murdered during the Holocaust – and to support a 'Legacy of Hope', learning from survivors' experiences to help create a future free from hatred and prejudice," she explained.

ABOVE: The Bridgend MP, Madeleine Moon, signs the Holocaust Memorial Day book of commitment.

"The MPs paid tribute to those remarkable individuals who survived the appalling events of the Holocaust, and have since dedicated their lives to educating younger generations about the dangers of allowing persecution and intolerance to take hold in society," Mrs Moon commented.

The aim of Holocaust Memorial Day was to motivate people – individually and collectively, to ensure that the horrendous crimes, racism and victimisation committed during the Holocaust and subsequent genocides are neither forgotten nor repeated.

"Holocaust Survivors are extraordinary people. We have a duty to them to pass on the lessons of the Holocaust to future generations.

"Holocaust Memorial Day gives us an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of Holocaust survivors, to commemorate the millions who died under Hitler's regime, and commit to a future free from racism and discrimination."

Town ward focuses on anti-social behaviour

RESIDENTS in Barry Court ward recently met at their bi-monthly PACT meetings to discuss local issues with PC Darran Fenton, PCSO Toni Treweeks, and local councillors Richard Bertin and Bronwen Brooks.

It was decided that the January priorities for the ward would be anti-social behaviour, fly tipping in the land between Robbins Lane and Westbury Close, and youth annoyance in Gilbert Street.

The next meeting is to be held at the Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry, at 7.30pm on March 11.

For further information, call either the Court police team on 01446 731623 or find them online at www.ourbobby.com

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In Business Update

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Vale Womens Business Network

Start it up and Hold On!

Wednesday 24th February 2010
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6.30 - 9.00pm

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(Guest membership for the event is £6)
Please e-mail members@vwbn.org.uk to book

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The VWBN's financially friendly event!

WHETHER you are just starting out in business, or you are already in business and rethinking your financial affairs, VWBN'S financially friendly event could save you money – can you afford to miss it?

Our two speakers are Pauline Turner of Concept Wealth Management Ltd, and Ally O'Meally Watson from Mazuma – who between them will demystify all things financial, including the pros and cons of accountants, book keepers, choosing between limited company or sole trader, investments and VAT.

This event could save you money and time!

Non-members are most welcome. Guest membership for the evening is just £6. Please contact us to book, as some events are limited numbers only!

For more information on the benefits of networking and joining the VWBN, contact members@vwbn.org.uk

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Contact your local consultant for more information, or call 07813 700695.

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Consider Aliye Mullen Photography for social and commercial events

HIRING a photographer for a wedding, a social occasion or a commercial project, can be a difficult choice these days.

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Aliye Mullen Photography ticks all the right boxes when it comes to selecting the right photographer for social and commercial photography requirements.

Aliye, who has a keen eye for detail and style, and a strong background in sales and marketing, explained: "An important part of photographing people or commercial projects is about establishing rapport with clients and understanding their requirements."

Aliye devotes considerable time to develop a relationship with her clients to fully understand their desires, needs and expectations.

Aliye Mullen Photography's clients benefit not only from her expertise in the marketing sector, but also welcome the affordable packages and her unique offers that enable them to own all the photos from the shoots they commission.

The clients can use these photographs to obtain prints, share with family and friends, use them on their websites or in advertising projects, which saves them a lot of hassle and money.

Aliye's objective is to make your photographic experience an enjoyable and hassle-free one – whether it is a family portrait, wedding or commercial assignment.

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Winter warning to look after your paintwork

MOST motorists understand that keeping car paintwork in good condition prevents rust, both extending the life of their car and maintaining its value.

However, while repairing major damage is a given, minor damage such as scratches, scuffs and bumps are often left, either due to concerns about cost, or the inconvenience of having the car off the road for a couple of days.

Motoring experts agree that, particularly in winter, minor damage can turn into a major headache.

Stewart Topp, AA Patrol of the Year advised: "Check for stone chips, as rust forms very quickly in the cold, damp weather," while Paul Jarvis of leading automotive paintwork repair specialist, ChipsAway, added: "It certainly pays to repair even small scuffs and scratches, as these can spread into larger areas of rust, ultimately costing you dearly if left untreated."

ChipsAway uses a unique system, which can repair small areas of damage within only a few hours and at a fraction of the cost of traditional body shop repair methods.

What's more, because ChipsAway operates fully equipped mobile workshops, Paul can come to your home (or your place of work) and do the repair at your convenience, restoring your car to showroom condition, prolonging its life and improving its resale value.

For further advice about winter motoring, visit the AA website, or contact your local ChipsAway representative, Paul Jarvis, on 07904 840202 (head office 0800 028 7878) for more information about maintaining your paintwork.

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Popular toy and train sale arrives in Barry!

THE first Chris Dyer fair of 2010 is also the first of the year in south Wales, at Barry Leisure Centre on Sunday February 7, from 10.30am to 3pm.

This show marks the first birthday of the move to the leisure centre in Greenwood Street. The extra space, superior lighting and warm environment have all helped to establish the show as one of the leading Chris Dyer events with traders and public, alike.

The ample free parking is also greatly appreciated, as is the excellent catering which is brought in for the show.

There is always pressure to book tables at Barry, with many traders travelling long distances.

Apart from stallholders from all parts of Wales, others come from as far away as the Wirral in the north and Surrey in the south-east, as well as many other parts of England.

Organiser Chris Dyer said this week: "The weather in January affected many events and there were a number of cancellations, including some of the larger shows around the UK. Now our regular buyers, as well as traders, are keen to get business moving again after some difficult weeks.

"I think that the big key is value, and I know that most of our stall holders are cutting their prices to the bone, in order to retain cash-flow and also to make their customers happy."

As always, the traders are also very keen to buy, exchange and part-exchange, and it may be well worth bringing your surplus items along on the day, if only for a free valuation.

For details, 01643 702757 and 07966 694579; website: www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk

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St John's Cadets are flying the flag for Wales Down Under!

TWO local St John Wales cadets are among four selected to represent Wales at an International Youth Festival in New Zealand.

They are Jasmine Vincent, from the Barry Rescue Division, and Samantha Evans, a member of the Bridgend Division.

The Christchurch festival, which is taking place between January 25 and February 1, includes cultural, social, educational and sporting activities.

Based at Lincoln University (NZ), more than 500 St John members from across the globe will be attending the week-long festival and Samantha (17) of Brackla, said she couldn't wait for the trip.

"I'm really excited and also a bit nervous but I'm really looking forward to meeting new people. This will be my first time in New Zealand and I can't wait!"

Fifteen-year-old Jasmine, of Cadoxton, Barry, also said she was looking forward to experiencing the New Zealand lifestyle.

"I'm looking forward to bungee jumping and swimming with the dolphins. I'm really excited!"

ABOVE: Jasmine Vincent and Samantha Evans, who will be representing Wales.

The dedicated cadets will take part in a range of competitions to test their first aid and communication skills.

Keith Dunn, chief executive for St John Cymru Wales, commented: "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our young people to experience first hand how St John operates in a different country and to help improve their first aid skills."

PARENT QUESTIONS THE SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONSULTATION PROCESS

THE Vale Council decision to consider whether to dispense with free school bus transport for the 16-19 age group – already under attack from parents in a Barry Catholic school – has now been questioned by parents at Welsh medium Ysgol Bro Morgannwg.

Parents at St Richard Gwyn have made it clear that they want the bus that takes sixth formers to St John's College in Cardiff to be retained.

Now, The GEM has been contacted by parents in the western Vale, whose children already face a long bus trip each morning to get to Ysgol Bro Morgannwg in Barry.

Mr Andrew Lewis, who lives in St Donat's, said; "My son already has to catch a bus that arrives at 7.35am, and he is by no means the first to get on.

"If the free bus was phased out, then there would be no possible way of getting to Barry by the start of the school day on a commercial bus service."

Mr Lewis feels that Welsh language pupils are being discriminated against.

He said: "When the Welsh medium comprehensive was set up, we had reservations because it was not in a central location, but now we feel badly let down.

"It is the only such school, so it is impossible to transfer to anywhere nearer. I don't think that it is unreasonable to expect a bus service to be available for those students who live a long way away."

Mr Lewis also raised concerns about the consultation process itself. he said: "Consultation responses were supposed to reach the council by February 1, but we only received our letter on January 27.

"Also, I cannot understand why letters were sent to parents and guardians of year-10 and year-11 pupils only.

"Don't year-7, year-8 and year-9 get a say as well?"

For the Vale Council, the head of strategic planning and performance, Paula Ham, pointed out: "Letters were distributed, via schools, to all pupils in years 10 and 11 during the first week of January – although it is possible that delays in distribution were caused by the severe weather conditions at the time.

"Consultation letters were also sent to headteachers and chairs of governors of the affected schools, as well as further education colleges and other relevant bodies.

"The consultation has attracted a high response rate."

She continued: "The impact of the proposals on students living in the western Vale would be variable, depending on the option applied.

"The charging option would result in the current transport network being maintained – meaning that students could still access schools and colleges in the same way as they do at present – but paying a contribution towards the cost of the transport.

"This would be applied equally to all students living more than three miles from their educational establishment and, therefore, would not result in the impact being greater for those living in the western Vale attending Bro Morgannwg."

Dr Ian Johnson, Plaid Cymru candidate for the Vale, was unimpressed by either of the options – a travel grant or charging system – saying that both were worse for parents and pupils than the current arrangements.

He said: "The Conservatives on the Vale Council are discriminating against those who have chosen a different education for their children – penalising those who send children to St David's College or to Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, as well as those who make the choice to attend further education colleges to continue their education."

● *The issue will be discussed at a scrutiny committee on February 15.*

The Hairy Bloke is celebrating first birthday

THE HAIRY BLOKE discount furniture store opened its doors one year ago this week, on the popular retail park at Culverhouse Cross, next door to PC World.

Paula and James, the owners, have had an impressive first year.

This is mainly due to quality furniture from top brands at excellent prices.

Also, the next day delivery, or even same day delivery, has proved popular with customers.

Paula and James would like to thank all their customers for their support, many who have returned time and time again and recommended Hairy Bloke discount furniture store to friends and family.

Call in and view the new extended ranges of quality, branded furniture covering the 10,000 sq ft showroom with easy parking.

You won't be disappointed; you will be celebrating the delights of the Hairy Bloke!

Lions' charity book fair plea

BRIDGEND Lions are busy preparing for their 16th charity book fair at Bridgend YMCA on March 5-7.

From modest beginnings in 1995, the book fair has enjoyed steady growth and over the first 15 years, raised in excess of £110,000 for local good causes.

"As always, we rely on the generosity of people in the Bridgend area who donate books on almost every subject under the sun.

"Donations can be handed in at YMCA, Angel Street, Bridgend (weekdays from 9am-5pm). Arrangements can be made for larger quantities to be collected by telephoning 01656 652244 or 0845 833 9582; or e-mail: bookfair@bridgendlions.org.uk" said Henry Trimlett, book fair committee chairman.

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Holocaust message at Vale UK film premiere

WARTIME reactions in America to the Nazi Holocaust were the subject of a UK film premiere at Art Central in Barry last week.

Special guests – Rabbi Aron Hier, director of campus outreach at the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles, and the First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones AM, were joined by more than 50 guests in viewing *Against the Tide*, a documentary produced by the centre and narrated by Academy Award winner Dustin Hoffman.

Rabbi Hier described how a young activist, Peter Bergson, challenged Washington and the establishment Jewish organisations to demand that the rescue of Europe's Jews become a top priority.

He said: "The theme of this film can essentially be reduced to an equation: One group kills another group, while another group stands by.

"This is essentially the story – had a number of simple things been implemented by the American government, such as rescue missions, then millions of lives could have been saved.

First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones, Vale Council Leader Coun Gordon Kemp and Rabbi Aron Hier from the Simon Wiesenthal Centre examine one of Nicola Tucker's (right) exhibitions.

It's about how people chose to stand by the side of the road and let it happen.

"No action was taken, and without action there was no real chance of hope."

First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones, commented: "It is an honour that *Against the Tide* is having its UK premiere in Wales.

"Documentaries and films like this are a powerful and stark reminder of the horror and destruction discrimination against others can bring.

"It is important that we are reminded of the lessons of the Holocaust to prevent such atrocities happening again."

The Mayor of the Vale, Coun Emlyn Williams, and Leader of the Council, Coun Gordon Kemp, both thanked the Rabbi for visiting Wales and welcomed the opportunity to premiere the film, and its important message, in Barry.

Coun Kemp said: "We're lucky to have the opportunity to hold the UK premiere in the Vale in front of so many distinguished guests, including Rabbi Hier and the First Minister.

"As Edmund Burke once said: 'All that is necessary for evil to succeed is that good men do nothing'.

This film demonstrates that the efforts of one good man were not enough to overcome the inactivity of many'."

Commendations were also paid to artist Nicola Tucker whose work is currently being exhibited at Art Central as part of the Holocaust Memorial 2010 events.

Council must wait to count pothole cash

THE Vale Council is waiting to see how much cash it will receive from the Assembly for emergency repairs to potholes that were caused by the big freeze in January.

The Deputy First Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, announced on February 1 that local authorities will be receiving an extra £2.75 million to help them tackle the numerous potholes left by the recent snow and heavy rain.

As there are 22 local authorities, each authority might expect to receive more than £100,000, but the exact split has not yet been revealed.

The money, which is additional to the annual grant already allocated, will allow work on these localised weaknesses to begin immediately.

Mr Jones said: "This extra money will help local authorities address the problems caused by the recent unforeseen weather conditions.

"It will allow them to tackle the potholes left by the recent adverse weather, and to continue the progress they have made to date maintaining the road network"

Miles Punter, Vale head of visible services, said: "The Welsh Assembly Government is yet to announce the amounts that will be allocated to each authority, or when this funding is likely to be received.

"We are, however, in a position to allocate any funding received immediately, to assist in improving our highway network."

Thefts from caravans

POLICE are investigating thefts from caravans at Porthkerry Leisure Park near Barry.

Between Sunday, January 31 and Monday, February 1, more than 28 static caravans on the Park were broken into and a number of flat screen televisions stolen.

Police believe the culprits had a vehicle waiting at the end of a path leading from the caravan park onto the bridge leading down into Rhoose Point.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact PC Phil Davies at Llantwit Major Police Station on 101, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 603.

● **£2000:** 293581.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £1,500, was not claimed this week.**

● **£10:** 885786; 187730; 705657; 560934; 188798; 701971; 321690; 818295; 848318; 223453; 478072; 149910; 805443; 617161; 755037; 772115; 265174; 341488; 560374; 594155.

● **£5:** 760213; 201436; 287167; 769923; 785477; 134500; 235492; 867744; 357506; 871345; 604034; 681687; 297807; 298394; 914282; 881363; 882942; 470511; 716542; 810712; 689088; 105525; 757160; 719199; 629371; 179404; 747963; 600556; 669698; 393685; 814365; 894143; 305336; 723634; 108212; 878358; 384402; 746910; 490618; 442742; 787593; 116056; 590830; 632829; 822980; 542578; 519443; 140247; 527999; 890521; 603238; 570355; 430760; 707503; 226462; 275192; 717303; 234482; 765168; 416036.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 602.

● **£2000:** 739273.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £1,000 was not claimed this week.**

● **£10:** 196627; 823551; 948747; 310794; 567252; 495078; 616141; 539591; 425716; 891428; 756049; 673464; 103407; 894621; 356014; 829606; 382098; 266244; 585072; 716543.

● **£5:** 599116; 146789; 209842; 408034; 584870; 221892; 895225; 131914; 287973; 408415; 526207; 707780; 798657; 692772; 555716; 654802; 197214; 114938; 313368; 865101; 487474; 235000; 702416; 387694; 828834; 751629; 293841; 253749; 189430; 285305; 149494; 948028; 473418; 111690; 827693; 872393; 433788; 788270; 203695; 456590; 894637; 393018; 237529; 671324; 796808; 106441; 178843; 781410; 875170; 341117; 892848; 484650; 542412; 857136; 684027; 800194; 381815; 604612; 373178; 300257.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

SUNDAY 14th FEBRUARY VALENTINE'S

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THE Six Bells, Penmark, is renowned for its welcoming atmosphere, delicious home-cooked food and friendly service.

The new year has started with a fantastic new credit-crunching menu, offering an array of tasty dishes from the pub's famous 'beer-battered fish of the day' and 'New York' style gammon' to rich 'Lamb cutlets en croute'.

Still available on the new menu is the ever popular two meals for £10 offer – something which cannot be beaten!

As The Six Bells sustains a well-deserved reputation for *the* place to dine, it is rapidly becoming a well-known party venue. Many special events are planned for 2010, including a regular pub quiz.

To receive further information or to book, call 01446 710229.

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Penmark
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Valentines Ball
3 Course Meal, Fantastic Vocalist & Disco
Sat 13 Feb..... only £25.95

Now taking bookings for
Mother's Day
Sun 14 March
2 course lunch only.... £10.95
3 course lunch only.... £13.95

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Romance at a Glance

SUNDAY FEBRUARY VALENTINE'S 14th

Chocolate can make you beautiful!

THIS Valentine's Day, why not treat the one you love – or even yourself – to the ultimate chocolate experience?

You know all us girls (and boys!) love chocolate but also like to look good. Balance the Body, Barry's highly popular beauty and holistic therapy salon, has designed a special package to make you feel naughty but look nice...

The 'chocolate orange experience' combines a luxury chocolate facial with a relaxing orange infused back, neck and shoulders massage for only £25. But if chocolate is not your thing, visit our website – *www.balancethebody.co.uk* – where you will find an extensive range of luxury treatments that will help you make this Valentine's Day extra special!

Calling all men...Be a Valentine's Day winner!

MEN have a particular problem to overcome when it comes to getting cards or presents for birthdays, anniversaries, and Valentine's Day – it's called laziness!

Valentine's Day presents a real conundrum because all the other family events throughout the year will be dealt with quite reliably by a wife or girlfriend.

A man can hardly ask his beloved to get her own Valentine's Day card – although it wouldn't be a surprise if there was a man low enough to attempt it!

The two excuses most men rustle up when they have forgotten the season of love and romance are: *"I've been so busy"*, or the even less original, and rather lame, *"I forgot"*.

So, for once, this Valentine's Day why not surprise your wife or fiancee with your efficiency?

There are no excuses, because there are 10 full days to go until February 14.

Next time you are out, make it a priority to buy a card and gift, or take a moment to book a bouquet of flowers over the phone.

For those still blessed with some money during the recession, a weekend away will really delight the missus!

So men, make 2010 the year you made your sex proud – and don't forget ValeNtine's Day!

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Beauty Clinic gives you a full treatment

MICHAELA GLASS, owner of the Beauty Clinic in High Street, has 20 years' experience in the beauty business.

This friendly, fully qualified team welcomes both male and female clients, offering a full range of beauty treatments, massage, holistic and aromatherapy and the new Minx nail art.

The Beauty Clinic can also offer cosmetic procedures by Dr HM Perry, including anti-wrinkle injections, sculptra, restylane and skin peeling.

Telephone the Beauty Clinic for an appointment on 01446 743222.

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THE BEAUTY CLINIC
Full range of unisex beauty and holistic therapies performed by fully qualified therapists.
If you love attention, you'll love MINX
Long-lasting foils for toes & fingernails in a variety of eye-catching patterns and colours
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Men's Organic Facials
Spray Tanning
Sparkle Parties (under 13s)

Exclusive to Balance for Valentines Day:
THE 'CHOCOLATE ORANGE EXPERIENCE'
A Luxurious Chocolate Facial followed by a relaxing Back, Neck and Shoulders massage using orange infused oils for only £25.00
GIFT VOUCHERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR: VALENTINES DAY AND MOTHERS DAY
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Why not treat your loved one to something special?

JEANETTE ROBERTS, formerly of Head to Head in Dinas Powys, has 20 years' experience as a professional hair stylist and is willing to travel throughout Barry and the rest of the Vale to the relaxed environment of your own home.

She specialises in colour and cutting of ladies', gents' and children's hair.

Jeanette offers free advice and consultation if required and there is a price list available to match your needs.

Please telephone 07980 161942 for more information.

PROFESSIONAL MOBILE STYLIST

Please call
Jeanette Roberts
For an appointment
07980 161942

Mount Sorrel Hotel offers more in 2010

THE Mount Sorrel Hotel in Barry is one of the nicest venues for a romantic Valentine's dinner dance – so book now for Saturday, February 13.

Mount Sorrel Hotel is one of Barry's favourite places for events in 2010, with many top tribute nights such as Barry Manilow, Michael Jackson, Neil Diamond, Beach Boys, Freddie Mercury, plus many more planned for the forthcoming months.

The Impulse health and fitness club at The Mount Sorrel has a special offer until the end of March – every person who pays for six months subscription in advance gets a £100 registration for free!

This exclusive club offers a heated indoor pool, sauna and various pieces of exercise equipment.

For the hotel that offers a lot, lot more, call into the Mount Sorrel Hotel, or call 01446 740069.

The Mount Sorrel
Valentine Dinner Dance
Saturday 13th February
Romantic 3-Course Meal, plus coffee & mints and a gift for the ladies.
Only £17 per person
'Night at the Musicals'
Saturday February 27th, 2010
3 Course Dinner, Coffee and Mints.
only £16.95 per person
Bookings now being taken for Mothering Sunday Lunch
Please call for bookings and a full list of events for 2010
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Sample our 'TASTE OF CHINA' SPECIAL . . .
Order as much as you like! Adults £13.50, Children £6.50
Served Sunday to Thursday
SPECIAL DINNER MENU
★ 2 courses for only £9.95 per person/children £6.95
Order one dish from each course
Served Sunday to Thursday
VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL (Sunday 14th February)
with two glasses of wine and a rose for the lady.
Hor D'oeuvre: Spare Ribs with Syrupy, Satay Chicken Skewer, Seaweed Rolls and Seafood Rolls.
(Optional extra: £2.50 suppliment per person*)
Crispy Aromatic Duck served with Pancakes and Fresh Salad.
Main Course: Sizzling Beef with Black Pepper Sauce.
Shredded Crispy Chicken in Birds Nest.
Sweet and Sour Fish. Pineapple Fried Rice
£25.00 per person*
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Choose maximum
3 starters and 3 main courses between the 2 of you, or maximum 4 starters, 4 main courses for the 3 of you.
£15.50 per person
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Home cooked, popular main courses, sourced from local produce, plus daily specials and delicious cocktails from £3.95
VALENTINE Diners – a FREE glass of house wine
SUNDAY 14th FEBRUARY
6pm - 11pm
(Bookings Only)
CHEERS

MAIN MENU Diners enjoy 15% OFF any bottle of wine
SUNDAY 14th MARCH Mother's Day Special Roast
10am - 3pm
(Bookings Only)
Sample Menus
TAPAS . . .
STARTERS:
Bruschetta: A classic bruschetta topped with tomato, garlic and basil £2.95
Nachos with melted cheese, soured cream, curry mayonnaise and salsa £4.95
VEGETARIAN:
Champinones al ajilio: Mushrooms in garlic, olive oil, parsley and dry sherry £3.50
Tortilla Espanola: A classic Spanish omlette mixed with potato £3.95
MEAT:
Chorizo al vino: Spicy Spanish sausage, pan fried in olive oil and red wine . . . £3.75
Albondigos: Meatballs cooked in tomato sauce £4.95
FISH:
Boquerones Fritos: Tiny deep-fried whitebait, served with a lemon wedge . . . £4.50
Paella: Traditional Spanish paella with mixed seafood and vegetables £5.25
EVENINGS . . .
STARTERS:
Mushroom Stroganoff served on Garlic Bread £3.95
Spicy Fishcakes served on a bed of salad £3.95
MAIN COURSE:
House Curry served with rice and chips, papadam and chutney £7.95
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Out and About with The GEM

'Special moments' earn Erin and Verity the 2010 GEM/Ferris scholarships

THE two latest winners of The GEM/Ferris Entertainment scholarships have been announced – Erin Hayes, aged 12, from Llantwit Major, and Verity Campbell, aged 13, from Barry.

The two girls join Jimmy Webster from Cardiff as the three 2010 recipients.

Erin attends Llantwit Major Comprehensive and she explained that the stage experience gained at the school had held her in good stead when Peter Ferris held the scholarship masterclasses in Penarth.

"I have done stage acting with Mrs Smith at the school which gave me confidence, although I was still a little nervous on the day.

Acting coach Peter Ferris with Erin Hayes (left) and Verity Campbell.

"I was keen to work with Peter, take on any challenges and succeed.

"Winning the scholarship was a surprise. I'd like to pursue acting in the future.

"At school, I've taken part in productions such as *'We Will Rock You'* which is a great show to be in." She is also hoping to be involved in *Les Miserables,* the school's next show.

Erin's mother Catherine said: "Before she went to the masterclass, she read up on what Peter had done in the past. Winning the scholarship is a great opportunity for her to learn more about performing."

Verity Campbell's proud mother Yvette said: "We're very proud that she won the scholarship. I think performing courses like this encourage children's confidence, give them an ability to speak publicly and teach them how to present themselves."

Verity, a pupil at Bryn Hafren in Barry, would consider making a career out of acting too.

"It is something I'd like to do in the future. Actually, it was a big shock to me when I won the scholarship because I felt my second performance wasn't as good as the first.

"I was slightly nervous when I arrived at the masterclass, but then met Jimmy (Webster) my friend and felt better."

Penarth acting coach, Peter Ferris, told The GEM: "Verity performed brilliantly in both of the masterclasses we held and in a scene with Jimmy created a very believable relationship.

"In Erin's scene she found a way of saying a line that was very truthful and really funny.

"Both of these moments left a memorable impression which won each of them a scholarship."

Rhoose Lifeguards pass national qualifications

RHOOSE Lifeguard members Jake Connolly, Emma Cordy, Theo Frangoulis, Charles Grandfield, Storm Morham, Rhys Perry and Alex Varney passed their National Rescue Standard bronze qualification last Saturday.

The awards not only indicate that they have the skills necessary to become beach lifeguards but also allow them to compete competitively for Great Britain in numerous lifesaving championships around the world.

Also Sarah Bryant and Samantha Davies (both within the masters' age group) received their Surf Lifesavers (Welsh Masters) awards, allowing them to coach children, from the age of seven years to 12-years-old, on the beach, in the sea and in the swimming pool as trainee lifeguards.

A tremendous amount of hard work has been undertaken by these members and the coaches, especially trainers Dave Cooper and Karen O'Donaghue Harris, to gain the well deserved awards.

Rhoose Lifeguards have also taken delivery of their new inflatable rescue boat. The club was able to purchase this boat thanks to a grant of £5,000 that was supported by the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services through the 'Kick Start III Grant Scheme'.

Thanks go to Mrs Sian Baron (fundraising officer) for all her hard work in securing grants and organising many fundraising events throughout the year.

The club has spaces available within the Nipper Section. It is especially looking for youngsters aged seven and eight.

Youngsters must be able to swim at least 50m (two lengths of the Fontygary Park or Barry Leisure Centre swimming pool).

If you are interested in joining the Rhoose Surf Lifesaving Club (Nipper Section), during the winter months (November-April) we meet every Friday at the Lifeguard Hut, Fontygary Beach between 6pm-8pm (this session includes a swim in the Fontygary Park swimming pool).

During the summer months (May-October) the club trains on Friday between 6pm-7.30pm on Barry Island beach at the eastern shelter.

On Sunday morning we meet 8am-9am in the Fontygary Park swimming pool all year round.

For further information, visit the club website www.rhooselifeguards.co.uk, or contact: chris@rhooselifeguards.co.uk

ELAINE EDGERTON

Win classic album cover stamps!

WHETHER it's the bent chromed pipe of Mike Oldfield's seminal 70s masterpiece, *Tubular Bells*; the astonishing statues of Pink Floyd's *Division Bell*, or the racing greyhounds of Blur's Britpop classic, *Parklife* – the images on Royal Mail's first set of stamps for 2010 will be instantly recognisable to millions around the world.

Readers of The Glamorgan GEM will be delighted with the presentation pack of ten of the Classic Album Cover stamps, which are on offer in our exciting new stamp competition.

To enter our competition all you have to do is answer the following question:

Blur's classic album is called what:
A. Parklife; B. Pondlife; C. Lowlife?

Send your entries, marked '*Classic Cover stamp competition*', to The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL, no later than Friday, February 12.

No correspondence will be entered into, and the judge's decision is final. Good luck!

Vale woman's Cardiff display

A VALE artist's work is on show in Cardiff as part of an all-woman show to celebrate International Womens' day.

The show runs until March 9 at the Off The Wall gallery. Natalie Hooper, who lives in Marcross, said: "It is fitting that my work celebrates the female form.

Natalie has just gained a distinction from City & Guilds in Printmaking but is best known for her life drawings and photography.

She said: "The camera is a creative tool which I use to exploit moments that are gone before I could draw them - and it's such fun.

"My years as a teacher and as a mum of four young children do help."

She has just moved to Marcross from Bedfordshire with her Neath-born husband and four daughters.

She added: "It's new arena for me and very exciting. Wales is wonderful and I have had such a warm and friendly welcome."

Concert 'to help eradicate polio'

COWBRIDGE Male Voice Choir will be performing at a charity concert on Saturday, February 27, at 7.30pm in Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

The concert is being held on behalf of the Rotary Club of Llantwit Major as part of the club's efforts towards the eradication of polio worldwide.

In addition to the choir, there will be two young local musicians taking part, cellist Ben Tarlton from Llantwit Major and soprano Daisy Evans from Sigingstone.

Tickets cost £7.50 and are available in Llantwit Major from Cloggs Footwear and Gwyneth Morgan Optometrist, and in Cowbridge from Quills stationery shop.

TC

Haiti appeal rock concert

A GROUP of Vale musicians have pulled together to organise a benefit rock concert to raise money for the Haiti disaster appeal.

Local singer Aubrey Parsons, and guitarist Mark Pontin have arranged four of the area's top bands to perform for free at The Duke Of Wellington, Cowbridge, on Sunday, February 7, at 6pm.

Co-organiser Mark Pontin stated: "I was in Paris when I saw the news of the earthquake, and the sheer devastation, coupled with the tranquil surroundings I was in made me think of ways to try and help, in any small way that I could.

"As soon as I returned home, I contacted Aubrey and we began to organise this event to raise money for the DEC appeal".

All the musicians and organisers have given their time for free, and Mark, landlord of The Duke, provides the medieval ballroom free of charge.

Appearing will be singer-songwriter Sophie Hansen, Swansea-based band Cocamama, Aubrey Parsons singing a solo set, blues-rock outfit MPG, and long standing Cowbridge band The Watchmen.

Admission charge is £10 per person and goes straight to the appeal. There is a strict 150 attendance limit for health and safety reasons, so the organisers advise an early arrival.

Win a free tour of Cosmeston!

'WHAT it means to be Welsh' is the theme for a special St David's Day competition organised by Cosmeston medieval village.

Schools and educational groups are being invited to ask their students to submit their thoughts, and entries can be in English or Welsh and as short as a small paragraph, but no more than 1,000 words.

Indeed, it all depends on how much room is needed to express a sense of Welshness! Entries must be sent to Cosmeston medieval village by St David's Day, (March 1) and the winner will receive a free tour with activities for their class or group, and a season ticket giving free family entry to the village in 2010.

The competition is restricted to under 18-year-olds, and submissions must be sent to: Cosmeston medieval village, Lavernock Road, Penarth CF64 5UY.

Welsh Blood Service

THE forthcoming Welsh Blood Service sessions are:

Vale of Glamorgan: Old Pioneers Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, February 9 – 10am-12.30pm and 2pm-6pm; The Old School, South Road, Sully, February 11 – 10am-6pm; Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road, Llantwit Major, February 15 – 10am-6pm; February 16 – 10am-6pm.

Bridgend: Brackla Community Centre, Whitethorn Drive, The Triangle, Brackla, February 19 – 10am-6pm; Mobile Donation Clinic, Bridgend Designer Outlet, The Derwen, Bridgend, February 26 – 10.45am-2pm and 3.30pm-6.30pm.

(To attend this session, it is advisable to make an appointment as these donors will take priority. Please call 01443 622193 or e-mail donor.appointments@wbs.wales.nhs.uk to make one.)

If anyone misses a session, telephone 0800 252266, or visit www.welshbloodservice.org.uk

Hearing Aid Exhibition

DO YOU NEED THE TV LOUDER?
DO YOU FIND IT DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW CONVERSATIONS?
DO YOU FIND PEOPLE MUMBLE?

If the answer is YES, there may be a simple solution.

Hearing Wales will be holding Hearing Exhibitions

between 10am and 2pm at the following venues:

Tuesday, 9th February
Lesser Hall,
Town Hall, COWBRIDGE

Thursday, 11th February
Memorial Hall,
Gladstone Street, BARRY

Come and see displays of the smallest hearing aids in the world and find out about the latest in hearing aid Digital Technology.
We will also be offering:

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- Friends and family are welcome to accompany you.
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If you cannot attend but would like a free home visit,
please call 01792 650894

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24/7 EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

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For more details, phone or write to us at the above address

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

FOUR PAGE SUPPLEMENT

Get set for switchover

With just weeks to go until the first analogue TV signals are switched off in Cardiff, Newport and south east Wales, The GEM has teamed up with Digital UK to provide readers with this special guide to the digital TV switchover.

What is switchover and when is it happening?

Digital TV switchover is the biggest change in television since the introduction of colour. Analogue signals will be switched off and replaced with new digital services. This will make Freeview available for the first time to thousands of homes watching local 'relay' transmitters in areas such as Pontypool, Rhondda and Ebbw Vale.

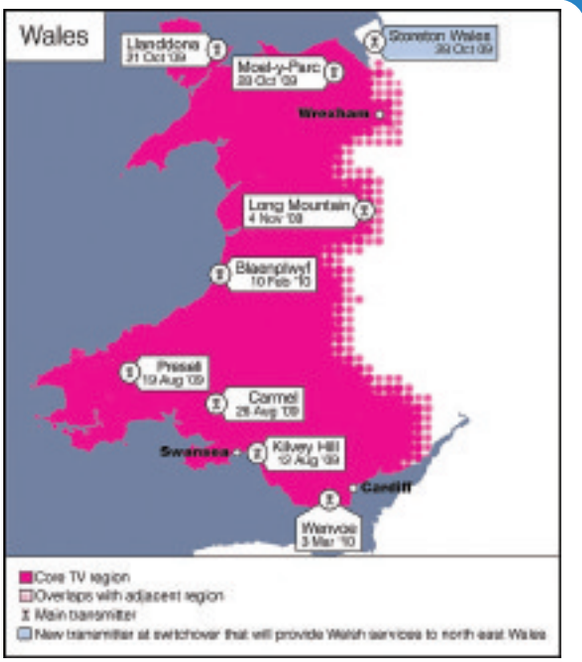
Switching off the analogue network will also allow digital signals to be boosted to full strength, improving reception for many viewers already watching Freeview, Top Up TV and BT Vision.

To continue receiving TV after switchover, analogue sets will need to be converted using a digital box or replaced with a new digital television.

Switchover for the Wenvoe transmitter group, serving Cardiff, Newport and south east Wales, will happen in two stages on March 3 and March 31, 2010. Some readers may receive their TV signal from a different transmitter group which will switch on at a different date. You can check when you switch by using the postcode checker on the Digital UK website at digitaluk.co.uk or by calling 08456 505050. A Welsh language helpline is available on 08458 48 48 48.

Digital UK, the independent organisation set up by the broadcasters, provides a helpline and website to help with general questions about getting digital TV and preparing for the switchover.

Emyr Byron Hughes, Digital UK's National Manager for Wales, says: "Switchover will change forever how television is broadcast. I'm delighted that, very soon, viewers who have previously been unable to get Freeview services will be able to do so for the first time. Most people are well prepared; but for those who still have questions, we are here to help."



How will switchover happen?

Switchover will happen in two stages. If you currently receive your TV signal through an aerial, in either analogue or digital format (e.g. Freeview, Top Up TV, BT Vision), then you'll need to make a note of the information below. Televisions connected to a cable or satellite service are not affected.

Stage one – March 3, 2010:

In the early hours, analogue BBC Two will be switched off and replaced with a new digital signal. Local 'relay' TV transmitters will also start to broadcast the BBC's other digital channels for the first time.

Readers switching to digital for the first time via Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will now be able to set up their equipment. Homes already watching these services should **retune their digital boxes or IDTVs.**

Also on this day, due to a change in broadcast frequencies, some viewers may find that ITV1 moves to button 2 on the remote control. All the analogue channels will be switched off permanently, however, at stage two.

Stage two – March 31, 2010:

All remaining analogue channels will be switched off and replaced with additional digital services. Everyone watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to retune their equipment again to receive all available channels.

What time will services be switched on?

On both dates, these changes will happen overnight. For most viewers, services will be restored by the morning. Households receiving their TV signal from local relay transmitters will receive new digital services later in the day and should tune in for the first time or retune from this point.

Getting digital TV

Most households in Wales are already enjoying digital TV on at least one set in the home. If you're still only receiving five or fewer analogue channels through an aerial on any of your sets, you'll need to think about converting them for switchover. If you don't, you risk being faced with a blank screen once analogue signals are switched off.

There are three main ways to go digital:

- Convert your existing analogue TV using a digital box (e.g. Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision).
- Have a digital TV service, such as satellite, cable or broadband TV, installed for you. Providers include Sky, freesat, Virgin Media and Tiscali TV.
- Buy a new TV with digital (Freeview or freesat) built in.

Remember, almost everyone will be able to watch Freeview after switchover – even homes currently out of coverage. If you choose to get television this way you'll be able to receive BBC One, BBC Two, ITV1, S4C, Channel 4 and Five, plus a range of other channels and interactive services. The exact number of channels will depend on which transmitter supplies your signal. If you can't currently receive Freeview, you won't be able to tune in until the signal starts up in your area.

You can check the options for going digital in your area and the channels you'll be able to receive via an aerial using the postcode checker on the Digital UK website at digitaluk.co.uk. Extra channels are available through other digital TV services, such as satellite or cable.

Virtually any TV set, including black and white ones and those without Scart sockets, can be converted using a digital box. If you're buying new TV equipment, look for the 'digital tick' logo. This identifies products designed to continue working through the switchover.

Digital TV also provides on-screen TV listings, widescreen pictures and red-button interactive services. Viewers who are deaf or hard-of-hearing will be able to enjoy additional subtitled programming, while those who are blind or partially sighted can benefit from audio description services, providing a commentary on what's happening on screen.

Hotels, B&Bs, caravan parks and other areas of the tourism industry will also need to convert their televisions to digital. Advice for landlords and other property managers is available on the Digital UK website at digitaluk.co.uk/propertymanagers.

digitaluk.co.uk **08456 50 50 50** **get set for digital**

The Switchover Help Scheme...

THOUSANDS of people in Wales have already taken up help from the Switchover Help Scheme. Run by the BBC under an agreement with the Government, it's an official scheme which makes switchover easy for older and disabled people by giving practical help to switch one TV in their home. Now's the time to contact the Help Scheme if you're eligible and you want help in time for switchover.

People are eligible for the Help Scheme if they are:

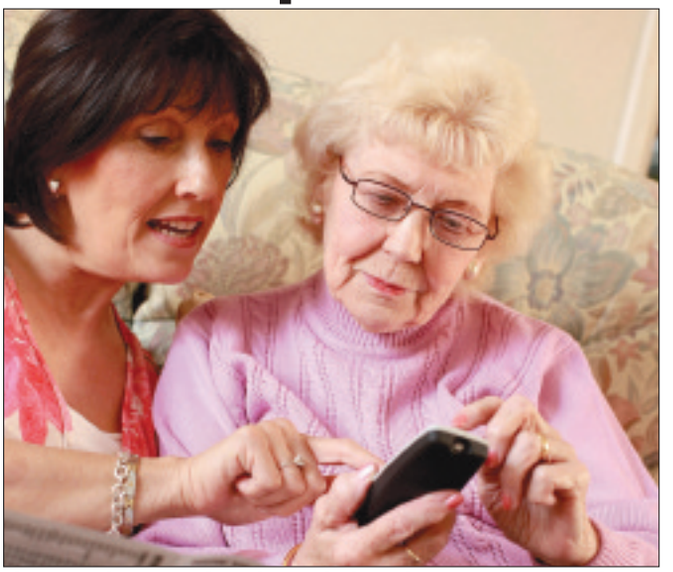
- aged 75 years or over;
- eligible for attendance or constant attendance allowance, or mobility supplement, or disability living allowance;
- registered blind or partially sighted;
- or have been living in a care home for six months or more.

If you're eligible, you will be offered equipment that's easy to use, delivery or installation and a demonstration of how to use it, together with a choice of options. We will also check your aerial and upgrade it where we can, if it's needed. Importantly, there is a freephone number to call for help while you get used to things.

The Help Scheme has been specially designed with older and disabled people in mind and offers a high standard of service, such as fixed appointment times and installers trained to take extra care in your home.

Most people will be asked to pay £40 towards the standard offer of help. For eligible people on income-related benefits, it's free. Eligible people can also choose from a range of other Help Scheme options, sometimes at a higher cost.

If you know an older or disabled person who might still need help to switch to digital TV, you could lend a helping hand and give them the message about the Switchover Help Scheme. Even if they have digital TV already, they can get help to switch another TV set in their home.



The Switchover Help Scheme helps 'those most in need to switch to digital television'.

All you need to do to get the help is respond to the information pack which has been sent to every eligible person's home. But you must respond to get the help. It won't be available forever. The Help Scheme will close for applications in Wales on 30 April 2010.

Face-to-face advice

Digital UK has been working closely with charities to organise local advice points on the day of – and the day after – switchover. These will be staffed by trained volunteers.

Anyone can visit a clinic, including people who don't qualify for the Switchover Help Scheme.

There are also Digital UK road-shows in the region. To find out where your local advice or roadshow will be, visit digitaluk.co.uk/wales or call 08456 50 50 50.

switchover help scheme

Choosing your preferred services

TV signals in parts of Wales overlap with those from England, and this will continue to be the case after switchover. After a retune, if you are seeing English BBC or ITV services at the top of your channel list, you are likely to find Welsh services further down. You can make these easier to find by using the 'favourites' list option on your digital TV or box. See your instruction manual for more details. Alternatively, you can manually retune your equipment to pick up specific services from your local transmitter. Advice on retuning is available at digitaluk.co.uk/retuning and on 08456 505050. A Welsh language helpline is available on 08458 48 48 48.

What if I've already got digital TV?

Viewers already watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to retune on both switchover dates in order to continue receiving all available channels. Cable and satellite services are not affected by switchover. You'll also need to think about converting any other sets in your home and consider any recording equipment.

If you're buying a box to convert your main TV, consider getting a digital TV recorder with a 'twin tuner'. As well as making your television ready for switchover, some models will let you record two digital channels at once. Ask your local electrical retailer about which kind of digital TV recorder is best for you.

digitaluk.co.uk **08456 50 50 50** **get set for digital**

Know someone who needs a helping hand switching to digital TV?

The Switchover Help Scheme is here to help everyone aged 75 and over, or disabled people, by providing the equipment and practical support needed to switch one TV to digital.

If you know someone who is eligible, make sure they get the help they are entitled to. Tell them to call us free on **0800 40 85 900** or go to **helpscheme.co.uk**

switchover help scheme

BBC The Help Scheme is run by the BBC

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

FOUR PAGE SUPPLEMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO MAKING THE SWITCH TO DIGITAL TV AS PAINLESS AS POSSIBLE

How will switchover affect my recording equipment?

It's not just your TV which may be affected by switchover: recorders may need updating too.

When the switch to all-digital signals takes place, video and analogue DVD recorders will still play back and record, but you won't be able to record one channel while you watch another. If you want to continue doing this after switchover, the simplest way is to get a digital TV recorder.

There are three types of digital TV recorder: a recorder that records onto a hard drive; a recorder that records onto a DVD; a recorder that allows you to do both.

What are the main benefits of getting a hard drive digital TV recorder?

In addition to being able to watch one channel while recording another, upgrading to a digital TV recorder will give you the following benefits:

- **Record at the touch of a button - no tapes or timers required.**
- **Pause and rewind live TV.**
- **Record a whole series at once.**
- **On-screen electronic programme guide.**

What to buy?

You don't need to buy a new television for switchover. Virtually any TV – even black-and-white ones – can be converted with a digital box. If your set doesn't have a Scart socket, ask your retailer for a box with an "RF modulator".

But if you are buying any new TV equipment, always look for the 'digital tick' logo, which shows a product is designed to continue working after switchover.

If you're buying a box to convert your main TV, consider getting a digital TV recorder with a 'twin tuner'. As well as making your television ready for switchover, some models will let you record two digital channels at once. Ask your local electrical retailer about which kind of digital TV recorder is best for you.

What if I need work on my aerial?

Most rooftop aerials will be fine after switchover but a small proportion of aerials are likely to need replacing.

Some set-top aerials may also need to be replaced. You can check whether your existing aerial is likely to be suitable for receiving digital by visiting the aerial test page on teletext page 484.

If you do need a new aerial, you should expect to pay around £60-£180 for a standard installation. Remember, never let 'cold-callers' offering aerial services into your home. Neither Digital UK nor the Switchover Help Scheme will ever visit you without prior notice and proof of identity. Also, be aware there is no such thing as a 'digital aerial'. If you feel you have been a victim of unscrupulous traders or installers, call the Consumer Direct helpline on 0845 404 05 06 for free impartial advice on your rights.

Never attempt to adjust a rooftop aerial yourself. Look for a Registered Digital Installer (RDI) with the 'digital tick' logo. This means they have been trained and security checked. Go to rdi-lb.tv/installers.html or call Digital UK on 0845 650 50 50 for more information. If you can't find an RDI locally, look for someone with Associate RDI or CAI Plus status – or ask your local electrical retailer.

If you live in a flat and share your aerial with others then you may have a communal TV system. If so, it may need to be adapted to receive digital TV. Your landlord or managing agent should be aware of this and be making plans but you may want to check.

In certain areas, changes to the frequencies used to broadcast digital TV may mean viewers need to replace their aerials in order to receive all the available channels. In particular, a minority of homes receiving their signal from the Cwmfelinfach or Usk transmitters may need a new aerial in order to receive all the digital channels available.

Digital UK recommends that you wait until after switchover to see if your aerial needs replacing in order to avoid having unnecessary work carried out.

How to install a digital box

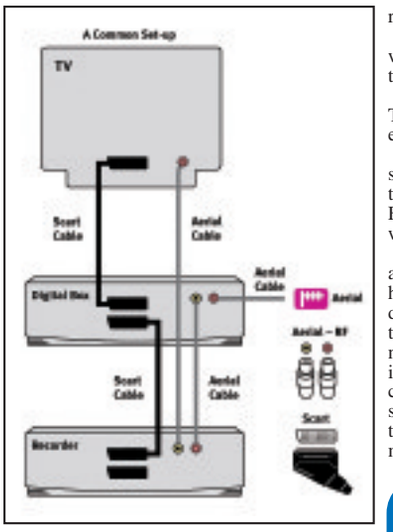
Switching to digital television is simple and needn't be expensive.

If you choose to get digital TV through an aerial – Freeview, Top Up TV, or BT Vision – it's reasonably straightforward to connect the digital box yourself. The illustration shows you how.

First, make sure your TV is unplugged from the electricity supply and don't switch the supply back on again until all the equipment is reconnected.

Once the TV is disconnected, plug in any Scart and aerial cables needed and then reconnect your equipment to the mains. Finally, turn on your TV and then your digital box. You may now be prompted by your box to scan for digital channels. If so, simply follow the on-screen instructions. If not, follow the instructions that came with your equipment to tune into digital channels.

You're now ready to enjoy digital TV.



How to retune your digital box or digital television

Viewers watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to a full retune their equipment at both stages of switchover in order to continue receiving services. Retuning is also required from time to time to access new channels as they become available.

To do a full retune your Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision equipment, follow these steps (these instructions are a guide only – each product works slightly differently).

Switch on your digital box or digital television

Press 'menu' on the remote control

Select 'set up' or 'installation' option

Select 'first time installation' option (sometimes called 'factory reset', 'full retune' or 'default settings')

Press "OK" if your equipment asks if you want to delete all your channels - don't worry this is normal.

Channels will be automatically installed. This may take a few minutes, and your equipment may shut down and restart.

The Digital UK website has a short video showing you how to retune, and specific retuning instructions for the most popular Freeview products. Go to www.digitaluk.co.uk/retuning

If you need help with retuning, find you are missing some channels or your equipment has stopped working, visit digitaluk.co.uk/retuning for more information. If you can't fix this yourself, you may need to call out an installer. Make sure the installer you choose has been security checked and trained. Your instruction manual should give you full information on how to retune and set favourites. If you can't find your manual, please contact the manufacturer.

This feature is brought to you by The GEM in conjunction with Digital UK.

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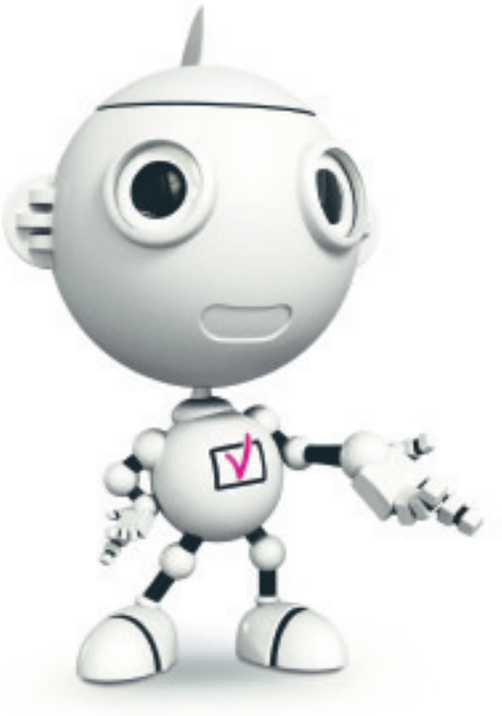

There are now just a few weeks to go until the Wenvoe transmitter group, serving Cardiff, Newport and south east Wales, starts its switch to digital on **3 March**.

For anyone who receives TV through an aerial and plans to switch using a Freeview TV or box* there are two important stages to remember:

3 March – Switchover stage one:

The switchover begins. Analogue BBC Two will be switched off permanently, and the higher powered BBC digital services will launch. All Freeview TVs and boxes will need to be installed or re-tuned at this point.

31 March – Switchover stage two:

On 31 March the remaining analogue channels will be switched off and the rest of the digital services launched. All Freeview TVs and boxes will need to be re-tuned again.

Switchover will make Freeview available to virtually every home in this area, including those that can't currently receive it, as it allows the digital signal to be strengthened and transmitted for the first time from the 75 local relay transmitters. This will mean that everyone can get around 15 channels, and will also provide additional services such as audio description for viewers with disabilities. Those who receive satellite and cable TV however, will not be affected by this change.

We're here to help. If you have questions call us on 08456 50 50 50 (English language) or 08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language) or go to digitaluk.co.uk for more information.

Thank you,

Emyr Hughes,
National Manager, Wales
Digital UK

Call 08456 50 50 50 (English language), 08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language) or visit digitaluk.co.uk

get set for digital

*Includes BT Vision or Top Up TV.
Calls are free for BT customers within inclusive calling plans. Call charges from other providers may vary.

Dull Mel Gibson thriller takes viewer to the 'Edge' of despair!

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

HAVING built up a career with the likes of *Mad Max*, the *Lethal Weapon* franchise and, of course, *Braveheart*, it seemed Mel Gibson's leading man life had ended with 2002's *Signs*.

Opting to stay behind the camera, Gibson directed the controversial yet financially-successful *The Passion of the Christ,* and *Apocalypto*, a film that was undermined by the bad publicity accrued when Gibson was arrested for drunk-driving, accused of anti-semitic behaviour and coining a phrase that for Dave Coaches in Gavin & Stacey is a term of endearment.

However, Gibson now returns to the front of the camera for *Casino Royale* director Martin Campbell in *Edge of Darkness*.

Based on a 1985 BBC miniseries (also directed by Campbell), it sees Gibson play Thomas Craven, a detective whose daughter (Bojana Novakovic) is gunned down in front of him.

Originally thinking that he was the target, he soon learns that his daughter was an activist with links to a shadowy defence organisation.

As he finds himself further embroiled in what his daughter was doing, he is contacted by a shadowy man named Jedburgh (Ray Winstone), whose murky motives will either help or hinder Craven's investigation...

Dubious religious views aside, I'm sure I'm not the only one who has missed seeing Mel Gibson on screen these last eight years.

With performances that bristle with charisma coupled with a strong acting ethic and a varied CV, Gibson is certainly one of cinema's more notable performers.

That being said, it will take more than the limp Edge of Darkness to bring Gibson back to the level with which he was once accustomed, because despite the actor's best intentions, he can't quite get to grips with a film that is lacklustre in the extreme.

It doesn't help that Gibson is a touch rusty in front of the camera, offering a performance that is solid yet lacking any real spectacle.

It seems odd he doesn't do more with the role, particularly as takes in elements of many of his previous characters - a splash of Riggs from *Lethal Weapon*, a drop of Tom Mullen from *Ransom*, a pinch of Porter from *Payback* - but whether it's a lack of faith in the material or just a case of nerves, his turn is hit and miss.

Excelling in the emotional scenes, Gibson captures the anger, confusion and sadness of the situation he finds himself in, bringing an old-school attitude to his detective, knowing that bending the rules can only help in finding who is responsible for killing his daughter.

When he has to get angry and violent, however, Gibson flounders in a sea of grimaces and gritted teeth, failing to convey the passion of his character's need to find his daughter's killer.

The performances around Gibson are similarly inconsistent, with Ray Winstone doing his best gritty Cockney but failing to have anything overly meaningful to do in a script that wastes his talents considerably.

The scenes he shares with Gibson rattle along nicely, but his character is never fully explained and seems too perfunctory to the plot, all the more surprising given that Winstone replaced Robert De Niro early on in the shoot.

Both Danny Huston, as the head of the shadowy organisation who know more about Craven's daughter than they let on, and the underrated Denis O'Hare are given short shrift, the importance of their characters in the overall scheme of things paling in relation to the amount of screentime they receive.

Given his knowledge of the story, Martin Campbell has a good go at bringing this big screen version to life, yet finds himself caught in the trap of being unable to really liven up proceedings.

With its dark hues and constant rain, he creates a dark and shadowy world that is reflected in the storyline, but there is little invention in his direction, with the odd action set-piece feeling tired and seemingly thrown in to alleviate another scene of exposition.

Campbell is certainly a skilled director - after all he resuscitated the James Bond franchise not once, but twice - but he offers little that is fresh or exciting here.

It is a criticism that can be similarly levelled at screenwriters William Monahan (*The Departed*) and Andrew Bovell, who manage to make the film far too complicated and murky, giving characters such as those played by Winston, Huston and O'Hare little in the way of screentime or motivation.

They also fail to satisfactorily edit down the six-hour original's story into a two-hour film, with several pivotal scenes of Craven working his way up the food chain to his daughter's killers cut to the bare bones and failing to satisfy the needs of the story.

Having not seen the original I can only assume that it fares much better than what is on show here; notable certainly for Mel Gibson's first big screen outing in eight years, there is little else it will be remembered for; Edge of Darkness? More like the edge of despair!

VERDICT - A poor film that feels underwhelming. Edge of Darkness' only real positive is that it gets Mel Gibson back in front of the camera. While not at his best, his hit and miss performance is the only positive you can take out of a film that is lacking in nearly all areas. Poor.

Can you give Charlie a home?

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre
(Telephone 01656 725219)

THIS WEEK: Charlie is an English Springer spaniel who is almost six years old.

A Trust spokeswoman says: "He's a complex dog who is sensitive and at times reactive in new situations and with strangers. He is also sensitive when being handled at first.

"However, once he gets to know and trust you, he's a lovely boy and very playful. He has mixed with other dogs but is undersocialised and struggles to make friends, so he will need further help with his socialising.

Cheerful Charlie.

"The type of home Charlie needs is one with an experienced owner, and he is not suitable with children.

"His new owner will need to be calm, patient and consistent with his handling to allow him to build up trust with them.

"Charlie is a strong character but in the right home home, he'll make a fun and rewarding companion," the spokeswoman added.

HISTORY SLIDE SHOW

THE Dinas Powys Local History Society will be holding its next meeting on February 9, to be held in the Kynance Church Hall, on the edge of Dinas Powys Common at 7.30pm.

Jonathan Berry will give the talk and show slides on 20th century military sites in south Wales.

All are welcome to attend. An administrative charge will be made at the door to cover running expenses.

For further information, please contact the programme secretary, Jan Gray, on 01446 701273.

LEGION MEETS

THE next meeting of the Royal British Legion (Barry Branch) will be on February 8 at 2.30pm in the Mayor's Parlour, Barry Memorial Hall.

We welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to : *ggem@internet-today.co.uk*

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Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003
JEREMY WILLCOCK has applied for the variation of a premises licence pursuant to Sections 34/37 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the following licensing activities at The Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan.
The application is to vary the premises licence to provide live music, recorded music, performance of dance, dancing, each day of the week from 1200 hrs to 0230 hrs; the provision of late night refreshments every day of the week on 2200 hrs to 0230 hrs and the sale by retail of alcohol every day of the week from 1000hrs to 0300 hrs
This application also includes the removal of a number of converted conditions.
The application can be inspected at the Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Section, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.
Any interested party responsible authority may make representations to the relevant Licensing Authority by March 3, 2010.
Any representation shall be made in writing.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000.

103 Main Street, Barry CF63 2HP
We act on behalf of the mortgagees and they are in receipt of an offer of £73,500 subject to contract for the above property. Anyone wishing to place a higher offer on the property must do so before legal exchange of contracts.
Gareth Jones, 85 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX. Tel: 01446 744812.

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Deadline for Motor Cars is 12 noon on Tuesday

Family Notices

PALFREY
Suddenly on January 5, at Llandough Hospital, Barrie William aged 63 years of Dyfnalt Road, Barry. Beloved son of the late Iris and Ronald Palfrey. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.
Funeral arrangements later, enquiries to A. G. Adams & Son, Barry. Tel: 01446 735400.

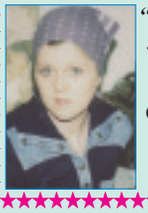
Birth Notices

Congratulations
Natalie & Revs
on the birth of your beautiful
Baby Boy
(31 January 2010)
All our love
Mum & Dad (Bateman)

Congratulations
Lewis & Delyth Collins
on the birth of your son
Iestyn Lewis
14.01.10
With lots of love always from Mum & Dad (Collins).
xxxxxxx

Birthdays

Happy 60th Birthday
WYNNETTE ROBERTS



"You thought you'd got away with it!"
All our love, Mum, Janine, Clive, Lana, Steve and all the grandchildren
x x x x

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HSINGHAI UPRIGHT PIANO. Good condition, needs tuning, 25 years old. Pick up only, £400 ono. Tel. 01446 747677. **(06)**
TV/VIDEO CABINET (McNally & Finlay), mahogany, excellent condition. Cost £600 new, sell £300 ono. Tel. 01446 796994. **(06)**
1 KINGSIZE and 1 Double divan bed and mattresses, VGC £95 each. One 3 seater and one 2 seater cream leather settee, as new, £425 the pair. Tel: 07544 746994. **(06)**
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Lost & Found

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Cowbridge Police Station
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FOUND
in Eastgate, Cowbridge on January 29th, 2010
Black Leather Glove
(right hand) with red stitching.
Contact
01446 774484

FOUND
In Cowbridge on January 31, 2010.
Tame, black, long-haired cat with green eyes
Contact
07967 388264

NEWS FROM PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Taking the Taff Trail – in the virgin snow!

RECENTLY, Peter had to cancel his planned walk due to illness, and we hope he has now recovered.

At very short notice, Clive and Jeff stepped in to share a walk to take advantage of the better weather, starting at the Black Cock Inn.

Joined by Pam and Krys and Paul at the pub where Pam's multi-coloured socks (following gifts received at Christmas) were shown off and greatly admired, the small group set off on what turned out to be a very pleasant six-mile walk in surprisingly good weather.

They made their way through Fforest Fawr (great forest) a lovely wood containing broad-leaved trees which is classed as a Site of Special Interest, and surrounds the fairy-tale Castell Coch, perched above the Taff gorge.

They dropped down to join the Taff Trail, opened in 1988 as a walking and cycling route that follows much of the old Taff Vale railway line and the disused Glamorgan Canal.

Both were built during the 18th and 19th centuries to transport coal and iron ore from Merthyr Tydfil and the Rhondda Valley down to the docks at Cardiff and Barry.

Stopping at a vantage point along the trail for an early lunch, they had good views of Garth Hill and away to the north, towards the central Brecon Beacons.

Further along the trail it was time to leave the flat track and do some climbing as they approached the base of Craig yr Allt.

They climbed gradually to the top of the hill which stands at 273-metres (896-feet) and at the top had brilliant views towards Caerphilly in the east, and nestling below them to the west, Nantgarw and Taffs Well.

The Taff Ely Ridgeway Walk passes across the top of the hill and, as they walked on, those at the front were treading in virgin snow, which is always a thrill, walking where no one else has trodden!

Someone, somewhere, was experiencing rain because the group had a great view of an arched rainbow high in the sky, before they moved on, gazing down on Caerphilly Castle, until it was time to descend into the valley.

All that was left was to make their way back to the Black Cock, where they took advantage of the hospitality on offer and enjoyed hot drinks before the journey home.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Tim's a 'crackerjackpot' Ty Hafan lottery winner

A DELIGHTED Mr Tim Howells from Bridgend became the first person to win the rollover prize in Ty Hafan's Crackerjackpot lottery, scooping a magnificent £5,000!

Left to right: Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot manager David Griffiths with Mr Tim Howells.

The family hospice for young lives, which operates the largest hospice lottery in the UK, has refreshed its prize structure this year by re-arranging the weekly prize pool of £3,000 to provide an opportunity for a bigger prize and for more winners.

The first prize of £2,000 remains the same, but a new rollover prize has been developed which starts at £500 and grows by that amount each week, to a maximum of £12,000 – or until the lucky winning number comes up.

Crackerjackpot provides a reliable and consistent source of income to the hospice, ensuring that Ty Hafan can continue offering, free of charge, its vital services to life-limited children, young people and their families from across the Wales.

For more information on how you can join visit www.crackerjackpot.co.uk or call 029 2067 2062.

Feedback sought on the Vale's tourism strategy

RESIDENTS are being invited to help shape the vision of tourism in the Vale by giving their feedback to a new tourism strategy for the area.

Produced by the Vale Council, the 'Draft Tourism Strategy 2010-2015' outlines key objectives for the next five years, and comments are being sought as part of a consultation exercise, which runs until February 26.

The Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism, Coun Anthony Ernest, said: "The council has a strong commitment to tourism and recognises its very considerable importance to the local economy.

"This document identifies the council's aims for developing tourism further in the Vale and I invite local business people and residents to read the strategy and give their feedback."

You can view the draft strategy online at www.visitthevale.com

Young chefs sparkle in Barry Rotary event

Photographs by IAN DIXON

THE Rotary Club of Barry held its 'Young Chef' competition recently.

The young chef competition was hosted by Sue Hooper, head of home economics, in the new student cooking area of Bryn Hafren.

Six students competed and judges Mary Hesford and Christine Minty of Vale catering services held that the winner was Jordan Clarke of Barry Comprehensive, with Sophie Thomas of Bryn Hafren the runner-up.

Other contestants were Heather Edwards, Shannon Sullivan, Harry Tobin and Sean Giddings.

Three-course meals were cooked and Jordan prepared leek and potato soup, followed by stuffed chicken breast wrapped in panchetta with a medley of seasonal vegetables and Dauphinoise potatoes, with banoffee pie for dessert.

Sophie prepared fig stuffed with stilton, followed by Cod kebab zingers with salsa tagliatelle, and white chocolate strawberry cheesecakes for dessert.

The judges commented on the high quality of dishes from all contestants. Jordan now goes on to the next round representing Barry in the Cardiff and Vale area, and if successful, he will go on to the south Wales competition.

ABOVE: Jordan Clarke receives his shield from Barry Rotary president, Don Carsley.

ABOVE: The competitors are congratulated by Mr Carsley.

ABOVE: Some of the mouth-watering creations. BELOW: Runner-up Sophie Thomas.

Dinas Powys 'anxious' to get back to action

ONCE again, Dinas Powys's Welsh League Division One game at Cambrian & Clydach was postponed on Saturday morning as the pitch was frozen.

Although the club is in a better position than most of the clubs in the league, having played more games, it is anxious to get the season underway again with the game against Bridgend Town, kick-off 2pm at The Murch this Saturday.

The previous Saturday they did manage to get a game played, but were on the wrong end of a 0-3 beating against an in-form Caldicot Town side who are second in the league.

As happens before every game, the pitch was inspected and at least three separate piles of dog mess had to be removed, not a very good start, but at least the pitch should be in good playing order for the game, or so we thought.

During the game, the referee had to stop the game three times for more dog mess to be removed, and quite rightly, he had to include these problems in his report to The Welsh League and Football Association of Wales with the possibility of disciplinary action against the club.

Apart from the unpleasant thought of falling onto one of these piles, during most games players get cuts or grazes, and if these wounds were infected, then the consequences for the player could be very serious.

As on previous occasions, the club has reported these problems to the Vale Council and asked them to enforce the warnings signs displayed to dog owners, some of whom are clearly thoughtless and irresponsible.

On a brighter note, the club are delighted to announce they have completed the return of long-time Dinas favourite Nathan 'Knocker' Hosgood from Division Three pace-setters Pontypridd.

The vastly experienced Hosgood will bring much needed guile and creativity to a hard-working Dinas outfit, who may have struggled to find goals following the return of Jaymes Dixon to Barry Town.

A club spokesman said: "Apart from being a really nice guy who always gives 100 per cent on the pitch, 'Knocker' has the class and experience to unlock any defence.

"As he is first to admit, he was never the fastest player on the pitch, but he has a good number of years left at this level.

"It's a real boost for the club, following on from the return of a number of former Dinas players earlier in the season.

"It's also a welcome addition to a squad that's high on team-spirit but a little short on numbers at the moment, although we are looking to remedy that in time for a tough run in to the end of the season."

Good away win for Barry RFC Seconds at Pontyclun

BARRY RFC Seconds returned to the road on a wintry Saturday afternoon as the visitors to a strong Pontyclun side.

With the return of James Hadfield and Alyn Evans bolstering the Barry line-up, the visitors started strongly. They pushed for the opposition line early on, and were only just held up by some strong last-ditch tackling.

Using the pace of Ashley Adams, Alex Evans and Ken Chow out wide, Barry dominated early proceedings.

Another venture into the opposition 22 finally reaped rewards as Lee Turnbull crashed through for his first try of the season. Adam Lee was unable to add the extras from out wide.

Pontyclun upped the ante. Choosing to play their kicking game, they finally managed to pin Barry in their own 22, but a marvellous break from Nathan Jones freed Joel Williams, who fed Ashley Adams, who ran from his own half, beating defenders on the way, before scoring underneath the posts for a memorable individual try. Lee's conversion was a formality.

The home side did manage to close the gap with a well-struck penalty, but Barry's set pieces continued to be solid, with their scrum giving the backs good ball to work with.

With half-time beckoning, Hadfield charged down a clearing kick in the opponent's 22, the ball bouncing off the post before Hadfield himself ground for his first try since his return to the green and white. Lee stroked over the extras in front of the posts.

The home side came out for the second half fighting, and were rewarded when they pounced on a Barry error. Barry elected to run the ball from their own line instead of kicking for touch from a penalty, Pontyclun turned the ball over and drove over to score. The conversion was missed. (8-19 to Barry).

Barry realised they needed to increase the tempo to prevent a second half comeback.

A line-out opportunity deep in the Pontyclun half gave them the chance to add to their score, but when Andrew Houldey offloaded to the Barry runner, strong home tackling turned the ball over and the chance was gone.

Before Barry had time to rue their missed opportunity, they struck again to give themselves breathing space. First Kyle Case was at the end of a flowing move to score his second try of the season, before Ashley Adams profited once again with the ball being spread out wide at pace, and raced through in the corner. Lee was unable to add the extras.

Pontyclun were rewarded at the death when they pushed over for a try in the corner after a line-out, and it ended 13-29 to the visitors.

Barry move up to second in the table after their first away win in the league this season.

Team: Alex Evans; Chow, Alyn Evans, Jones, Adams; Williams, Lee; Hosking, Turnbull, Haskell; Hitchock, Dutton; Case (c), Rolfe, Hadfield.

Subs used: Harris, Earls, Houldey, Rendall, Manley

Men-of-the-match: Hadfield, Adams and Case.

Latest Seaview Lads angling round-up

BITTER conditions and a general lack of fish hasn't deterred the Lads from getting their lines wet over the past month.

Rewards have been limited, with a few small codling, some whiting and a surprising number of rockling, including shore and five bearded species saving the day.

Many anglers have been fishless and on the Friday evening competition, just a single tiddler was landed – at least avoiding the ignominy of a match without a single fish!

February is traditionally considered an even slower month, so it looks like hard times ahead.

This may be the perfect time to spend a Sunday with the family (and get that hassle out of the way for another year). Tight lines boys!

January 24: 1st, P Crook 2lb 12ozs; 2nd, L Thompson 1lb 11ozs; 3rd J Wyatt 1lb 1oz; 4th P Coles 8ozs; 4th E Collins 8ozs; 6th S Doble 6ozs; 15 blanked.

January 21: 1st P Coles 6ozs, 5br. Five fished only one fish in size.

January 17: 1st J Velda 15oz codling; 2nd M Langford 10oz whiting; 2nd R Lougher 10oz pout; 4th A Harris 9oz whiting; 5th R Green 6oz slug; 21 fished, 16 blanked.

January 10: 1st W Taylor 3lb 15oz; 2nd M Langford 3lb 8oz; 3rd P Coles 2lb 1oz; 4th A Harris 1lb 11oz; 5th M Kerslake 1lb 8oz; 6th J Wyatt 14oz. Only eight of us fished, just one blank.

January 3: 1st E Collins 4lb 3oz cod, 5br; 2nd A Harris 3lb 2oz cod, slug; 3rd P Crook 1lb 9oz pouts; 4th G Warner 1lb 6oz dab, pout; 5th S Doble 15oz pout, 5br; 6th M Kerslake 2oz 5br.

A good turnout despite the freezing conditions. Not many fish caught.

Loss of concentration costs Sully Youth victory

THE long lay-off appeared to pay dividends for Sully Sports RFC Youth, as they travelled to Pencoed with a squad of 20 players!

It was evident that both sides hadn't played for a long time, but what was lost in skill through rustiness was made up for in sheer doggedness and determination.

The opening of the first half saw the Sports confined to their 22, but they were organised in defence and able to absorb the pressure.

The front row of M Stingl, B Adams and A Bertera were a revelation, allowing the Sports to build a platform to get out of defence.

Having weathered the storm, it was the Sports turn to exert pressure on the Pencoed defence, but as so often has happened this season, they failed to turn pressure into points.

Amazingly, it was 0-0 at half-time.

The second half saw the Sports take up where they left off – on the attack.

The first try of the game came when the Sports were able to capitalise on a turnover, quick ball away from the contact area released T Moffat into space, who then added to his try tally.

At this point the Sports were firmly in the ascendancy, but injury and fitness led to changes being made and consequently, in the resulting loss of concentration, Pencoed scored a try with 10 minutes left, making it 5-5.

The final frenetic 10 minutes saw numerous opportunities for each side to seal the victory, but last-gasp defending denied them.

The final whistle went, followed by a huge sigh of relief by the coaches, that the game had not been lost in the closing phases of play.

A draw was probably a fair result as both sides had their opportunities.

Training is on Tuesdays and players are still welcome.

Congratulations to the seniors, who continued their impressive season by defeating the previously unbeaten CIACS.

B BOOKER

Cardiff & the Vale Schools Boys Cross-country Championships, Trelai Park, Cardiff

Stanwell's Owen claims senior cross-country title

ALL the Vale secondary schools, plus Barry College, had boys taking part in last week's Cardiff & the Vale Schools' cross-country championships over a Trelai Park course in a surprisingly firm state – given the previous week's heavy snowfall.

Sadly, on a day when Cardiff schools provided three of the four individual winners and Llanishen claimed all three team titles, there was little joy for the Vale contingent, beyond providing more than 100 of the 276 finishers.

In the opening race, for the under-15 age group, year-8 Ben Owen was the only Vale athlete in the top 10, while Bro Morgannwg, in eighth place, led the Vale teams home.

Cowbridge pupils figured prominently in the year-7 races at the opening fixtures of the autumn term but, with Tom Lucas being delayed and missing the school transport and Ellis Rosser injured and unable to compete, only Kristian Jones figured in the top 10 at this event.

Slightly further down the field of 97, there were encouraging runs from Richard Dangerfield (Llantwit, 10th), Richards Stephens (St Cyres, 12th) and Dylan Connelly (Bro Morgannwg, 14th). By a narrow margin, Bro Morgannwg again headed the Vale schools, but could only place fifth.

On a grey, overcast day, the bitingly cold breeze, which had been so noticeable for the first two races, died so that the seniors in year-10 and above enjoyed the best conditions of the afternoon.

The first three places in this race, which includes two individual competitions – one for the under-17 boys in years 10 and 11, and the other for the seniors, were filled by pupils from Cardiff schools, but at least the Vale gained two awards.

Fourth-placed Owen Haswell (Stanwell), making a second encouraging run after a long absence through injury, claimed the senior title with a another Vale year-12, Darren Jones (Llantwit), in second. There was also a team success of sorts.

Bro Morgannwg had fielded more than 30 boys on the day, the fourth biggest contingent behind the 48 from Cardiff High, and gained some reward with a third-placed finish.

The individual and team awards will be made at the annual Cross-Country Presentation Evening, which is due to be held at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg on Tuesday, May 11.

Following this fixture, Cardiff & the Vale Schools' district will choose teams of 12, plus six non-travelling reserves, to compete at year-7, under-15 (years 8 and 9), under-17 (years 10 and 11) and under-20 (sixth form) at the Aviva 48th Welsh Schools' National cross-country championships at Brecon on Saturday, February 27.

The equivalent Cardiff & the Vale Schools' cross-country championships for girls are due to be held at Trelai on Tuesday, February 9.

Results of Vale boys: Senior (under-20 and under-17) Boys – 5.1 km – Individuals – 69 finishers (27): 4 Owen Haswell ((Stan, under-20) 18:37; 5 Rory Heslop (Bro M) 18:48; 6 Matthew Edwards (Barry) 18:52; 7 Darren Jones (Lwt, under-20) 18:58; 15 Dominic Farr (Bro M, under-20) 20:06; 16 Rhys George (Bro M) 20:09; 17 Daniel Lewis (St Cy) 20:16; 18 Alex Simon (Lwt) 20:17; 21 Oliver Crosby (Lwt) 20:36; 22 Dan Owen (Lwt) 20:40; 25 Joseff Whitmarsh-Knight (Bro M, under-20) 20:52; 26 Morgan Preece (Bro M) 21:00; 27 Dan Ruffle (Lwt) 21:12; 29 Einan Scott (Bro M) 21:21; 30 Huw Evans (Stan) 21:22; 31 Abdel Boulaiche (St Cy) 21:25; 34 William Elliot (Cow, under-20) 21:32; 44 Dafydd James-Isaacs (Lwt) 22:32; 51 Tiernan Scott (Bro M); 52 Michael Coles (Bro M); 54 Joshua Thomas (Cow); 55 Jon Esquirol (Cow); 56 Elliot Mears (Cow); 58 Kyle Garrison (Barry Coll, under-20); 60 James Warne (Lwt); 61 Dillon Morgan (Cow); 63 Ioan Williams (Bro M).

Teams: 3 Bro Morgannwg 61; 4 Llantwit Major 68; 8 Bro Morgannwg B 158; 11 Cowbridge 199

Years 8 and 9 (under-15) Boys – 4.1 km – Individuals – 110 finishers (41): 5 Ben Owen (Lwt) 16:27; 12 Sam Peterken (St Cy) 17:00; 14 Matthew Collins (Barry) 17:14; 16 Elliot Richards (Stan) 17:20; 17 Dafydd George (Bro M) 17:22; 23 Jake Bosza (W'bourne) 17:51; 26 Jacob Briscombe (Bro M) 18:00; 30 Tom Griffiths (Bro M) 18:09; 34 George Zygmonu (Stan) 18:30; 38 Lloyd Creed (Barry) 18:41; 39 Sam Laity (W'bourne) 18:41; 44 Curtis Williams (Barry) 18:54; 47 Ieuan Jones (Stan) 19:04; 48 Arran Bright (Lwt) 19:10; 49 Gareth Hurman (Barry) 19:11; 50 Callum Goddard (Barry) 19:15; 54 Curtis Hayes (Barry); 59 Tom Owen (Cow); 61 Junior Scott (St Cy); 65 Gareth Pilcher (Bro M); 66 Tomos Havard (St Cy); 68 Jacob Stokes-Mellor (Lwt); 76 Lewis Thomas (Bro M); 81 Morgan Williams (Bro M); 84 Keiran Thomas (Barry); 85 Joe Brown (W'bourne); 86 Arthur Blick (Cow); 93 James Loach (St Cy); 94 Taylor Harris (Bro M); 96 Rumtin Danelhuar (St Cy); 98 Robert Tucker (St Richard Gwyn); 100 Gareth Bolter (Lwt); 103 Jacob Frost (Stan); 104 Joseph Richards (Bro M); 105 Miles Jenkins (Cow); 106 Corrie Rowlands (Bro M); 107 Andy Young (Cow); 108 Jack McCaver (Cow); 109 Alex Vowles (St Cy); 110 Jordan Roe (St Richard Gwyn); dnf Tim Goodwin (Cow); dnf Alex Guard (Cow); dnf Joe Russell (Cow).

Teams: 8 Bro Morgannwg 138; 9 Barry Comprehensive 145; 11 Stanwell 200; 13 Llantwit Major 221; 14 St Cyres 232; 19 Bro Morgannwg B 355; 20 Cowbridge 357.

Year-7 (under-13) Boys – 3 km Individuals – 97 finishers (35): 6 Kristian Jones (Cow) 12:50; 10 Richard Dangerfield (Lwt) 12:57; 12 Richard Stephens (St Cy) 13:00; 14 Dylan Connelly (Bro M) 13:04; 15 Elliot Devred-Morris (Barry) 13:05; 18 David Constantino (Stan) 13:18; 20 Scott McMillan (Lwt) 13:19; 21 Reuben Bryl (Bro M) 13:22; 30 Toby Walker (Cow) 13:41; 33 Huw Bennett (Cow) 13:52; 34 Callum Drew (Lwt) 13:55; 35 Scott Dutfield (Stan) 13:56; 40 Andrew Greenslade (St Richard Gwyn); 48 Luke Swain (Bro M); 49 Rhys Evans (Bro M); 57 William Brown (Stan); 58 Lloyd James (St Richard Gwyn); 60 Ben Jones (Cow); 63 Will Eddy (Barry); 64 Calum Stisted (Stan); 67 Morgan Finlay (Bro M); 68 AJ Harry (Barry); 70 Steffan Godwin (Lwt); 75 Lewis Adams (St Cy); 76 Nicholas Rees (Cow); 77 Tom Edwards (Bro M); 78 Rhys Hunter (Bro M); 83 Jack Holloway (St Cy); 85 Rhydian Hopkins (Bro M); 86 Rhodri Miller (Bro M); 89 Mabon Evans (Bro M); 90 Ethan Darter (Lwt); 91 Billy Williams (St Richard Gwyn); 95 Iestyn Jones (Lwt); 96 Tyler Morse (St Cy).

Teams: 5 Bro Morgannwg 118; 6 Cowbridge 123; 7 Llantwit Major 124; 12 Stanwell 186; 15 Bro Morgannwg B 240; 16 St Cyres 254.

Year-8 Ben Owen (Llantwit, 307) the only Vale boy in the top 10 of the years 8 and 9.

An encouraging run from Richard Dangerfield (Llantwit, 301) 10th in the year-7 race.

Year-7 Kristian Jones (Cowbridge, 284) first Vale boy home in the year-7 race.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas
Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00044/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Retention of a wooden cabin for a use falling within the definition of Use Class D1
Location:/Lleoliad: 34, Archer Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00054/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings.
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Llantwit Major

Conservation Area Consent
Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00056/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of stone boundary walls within site (as part of proposed construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings)
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Llantwit Major

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00036/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed addition of 2 No. roof lights
Location:/Lleoliad: Mansfield, 24, Archer Road, Penarth
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00037/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Strengthen existing timber beam supporting the bedroom floor over the dining room and replace the ceiling in the dining room following accidental removal
Location:/Lleoliad: Great House, Llysworney
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00038/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: To install new ventilation plant in school kitchen and extract to the roof for Health and Safety reasons
Location:/Lleoliad: Albert Road Primary School, Albert Road, Penarth
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building
Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00054/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings.
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Old Place and Old Place Cottages, Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00056/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of stone boundary walls within site (as part of proposed construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings)
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Old Place and Old Place Cottages, Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar- vog.planning-register.co.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF
(TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest
Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00043/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Retrospective planning application for the retention of operations for the processing of timber waste for agricultural purposes including storage of plant and equipment when not in use and completion of partly constructed extension to farmyard.
Location:/Lleoliad: Brigham Farm, Llanharry, Pontyclun

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00058/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed Crematorium
Location:/Lleoliad: South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way
Ceisiadau a allai effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00058/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed Crematorium
Location:/Lleoliad: South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry

Departure from the Provision of the Development Plan
Ceisiadau nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio â Darpariaeth y Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00058/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed Crematorium
Location:/Lleoliad: South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk
Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 4 February, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 4 Chwefror, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
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Who wants to build what and where?

Miss Jill James – **West Farm, Southerndown** – change of use of existing barn property from tea shop restaurant to mixed use of tea shop restaurant, cinema plays, meeting facilities, exhibitions and holiday accommodation letting.

Mr Phillipe De Wilde – **Tumblers Chase, St Hilary, Cowbridge** – external alterations comprising demolition, construction of new store entrance portico and orangery on rear elevation.

Mr C Gunn – **1 Cedar Way, Penarth** – new attached house.

Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust – **Llandough Hospital, Penlan Road, Penarth** – temporary car park for the duration of the construction of the MHSOP Project. The car park provides parking for the building contractors' operatives and compensates for the loss of staff car parking spaces which have been overlaid by the temporary diversion of the hospital service road.

Staff car parking spaces will be reinstated upon completion of the development.

Redrow Homes – **land at St Johns Well, St Athan** – development at St Johns Well for up to 100 dwellings, public open space and associated access.

Mr Ian Hunt – **The Old Coal Yard, Le Pouliguen Way, Llantwit Major** – extension of the approved access road to houses 1 to 14 of application 2007/00107/FUL, also removal of parking spaces marked V, 6, 7 and 8 and related landscape items.

Mr Ian Hunt – **41 and 43 Boverton Road, Llantwit Major** – erection of eight three-bedroom semi-detached houses and parking, after demolition of existing properties on the site.

Mr Lesley John – **Cottages 1, 2 and 3 Highfield Close, Park Road, Barry** – extensions and internal refurbishment to three cottages (existing) at north boundary of Highfield Close, Park Road, Barry. Cottages 1, 2 and 3 two-storey pitched roof, extensions to be flat roofed.

Mrs C Fenton – **Kenson Cottage, Barren Hill, Penmark** – fell cherry tree.

Mr Martin Dodwell – **Flackwell Cottage, Tredodridge, Cowbridge** – change of use to residential curtilage and erection of boundary wall.

Mr and Mrs J Canning – **79 Castle Drive, Dinas Powys** – single storey side and rear extension.

Mrs Lynda Hale – **3 Winsford Road, Sully** – change of use of property annexe only, from residential use to business – provision of complementary therapies, primarily for adults with learning difficulties.

Mr CW Edwards – **land at Pwllywrach Farm, Colwinston** – to remove derelict earth banks that are within a larger field enclosure.

Mr Nick Wall – **plot adjacent 34 Smithies Avenue, Sully** – renew planning application 2004/00943/FUL for a two-storey dwelling house, parking and access.

Mr Andrew Baker – **6 Rogersmoor Close, Penarth** – replace existing velux windows with new dormer windows. Widen and increase height of the gable frontage to the house, and introduce new bedroom at first floor level and a home office at ground floor level.

Mr David Burgess – **Mansfield, 24 Archer Road, Penarth** – proposed addition of two roof lights.

Dr Emma Scott Coombes – **Great House, Llysworney** – strengthen existing timber beam supporting the bedroom floor over the dining room and replace the ceiling in the dining room following accidental removal.

Mr Malcolm Drysdale – **St Athan Recreation Ground, off Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan** – provision of floodlighting in association with an upgrade to an existing skatepark facility.

Mr and Mrs Clémo – **30 Tathan Crescent, St Athan** – proposed removal of existing porch, installation of new porch and conservatory, new window to lounge.

Mr Barrie James – **The Croft, St Andrews Road, Dinas Powys** – landscaping and retaining works.

Mr and Mrs Michael Haberfield – **plot adjacent to 75 Fontygary Road, Rhoose** – proposed new dwelling.

Openreach – **opposite 19 Plymouth Road, Barry** – erect a new above ground joining chamber. New green coloured cabinet.

Ms Claire Perrin Davies – **Marooned Hairdressers, 52A High Street, Cowbridge** – remove existing black awning above ground floor walkway and replace with a retractable black awning.

Ms G Sheppard – **11b Broadway, Cowbridge** – conservatory to rear of property.

Ms Lisa Edwards – **1 Grove Terrace, Penarth** – proposed entrance porch.

Mr John Pritchard – **26 Sully Terrace, Penarth** – change of use from ground floor shop and first floor dwelling to single domestic dwelling, including alterations and extensions.

Sainsburys Plc – **28 Windsor Road, Penarth** – internally illuminated box fascia and one internally illuminated projecting sign.

Windsor Arcade Management Ltd – **11 Windsor Road, Penarth** – provide a safe system to enclose the wheelie bins to prevent them straying onto the public highway and to avoid any fly tipping in the area.

Loft Co – **Washington Buildings, Stanwell Road, Penarth** – change of use of first floor units (A3) to live/work units.

Mr Darren Anstee – **118 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – replace windows to front and rear of property plus one rear door.

Mr Francis William Lister – **Bron Haulog, Blackton Farm, Port Road West, Penmark** – continued use of private dwelling.

Mr Rob Lucas – **11 Ham Lane South, Llantwit Major** – special needs adaptations including single storey extension to include shower/WC ensuite, wheelchair storage and associated works.

Mr Paul Barnett – **49 Lewis Road, Llandough** – demolition of existing single storey extension and conservatory and rebuild new kitchen extension.

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07 1.4i Forte 5dr Estate	Grey	12,500 miles	£6,495
07 1.6 HDi 16v Forte 5dr Dsl Estate	Red	44,037 miles	£6,995
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08 1.0i Vibe 5dr Hatch	Red	3,000 miles	£6,295
08 1.0i Rhythm 3dr Hatch	Red	16,501 miles	£6,995
06 1.0 Vibe 3dr Hatch	Yellow	25,000 miles	£4,995
CITROEN C2			
58 1.4 HDi VTR 3dr Diesel Hatch	Black	9,091 miles	£8,495
07 1.1i Airplay + 3dr Hatch Sp Eds	Yellow	12,133 miles	£6,495
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08 1.4i Cachet 5dr Hatch Special Ed	Silver	11,905 miles	£7,995
07 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Silver	35,500 miles	£6,495
56 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Grey	19,342miles	£6,495
55 1.6i 16v Exclusive 5dr Sensodrive Hatch	Blue	24,769 miles	£5,995
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59 1.6i 16v THO VTS 3dr Coupe	Blue	2,967 miles	£13,995
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56 1.6 16v Cool 3dr Coupe Sp Eds	Silver	29,002 miles	£6,995
06 1.6iHDi 16v VTR Plus 3dr Dsl Coupe	Silver	10,573 miles	£8,495
07 1.4i 16v LX 5dr Hatch	Blue	18,000 miles	£6,495
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57 2.0 16v SX 5dr EGS (5 seat) Estate	Silver	7,723 miles	£10,995
CITROEN C5			
58 2.0i 16v VTR+ 4dr Saloon	Blue	21,324 miles	£11,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Auto Dsl Sal	Red	14,994 miles	£13,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Dsl Saloon	Blue	18,297 miles	£12,995
06 HDi 16v Exclusive 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	35,000 miles	£7,995
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58 2.2 HDi H1 Van 120ps 33 L1 Diesel	White	5,041 miles	£12,645
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08 1.6 HDi 92 VTX 5dr Diesel Estate	Black	25,676 miles	£9,995
06 2.0 16v VTX 5dr Auto Estate	Blue	30,215 miles	£8,595
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05 1.0 Urban 3dr Hatch	Blue	44,000 miles	£4,795

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06 **56 BMW 2.0TD 320D SE 4-dr Saloon.** In Arctic grey with anthracite interior, automatic air con, upgraded alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 41,655 miles, fsh **£14,995**

06 **56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr** in sparkling graphite met with full Boston beige leather interior, comfort pack, cd, climate control, alloy wheels, reversing sensors, auxiliary I-pod connection, only 19,950 miles interior titanium trim, auto lights and auto wipers **£11,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz 1.8 SLK 200 Compressor Auto 2-dr Convertible** in Tellur silver, black leather interior, climate control, multi function steering wheel, CD, alloys, only 61,000 miles, fsh **£16,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz M-Class 2.7 TD ML270 CDI Automatic 5-Door Station Wagon.** In Brilliant silver with Orion grey leather interior, climate control, Bluetooth phone prep, privacy glass, heated seats, rear parking sensors, only 52,975 miles **£15,995**

05 **55 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel SE** in Amethyst with Ivory Leather interior, cd, alloys, cruise control, electric sunroof, electric seats, only 34,255 miles **£9,995**

04 **54 MERCEDES Benz CL500 5 litre 2-dr Auto coupe.** In tanzanite blue with java leather interior with BOSE sound system, AMG body styling, electric sunroof, only 48,245 miles **£19,995**

01 **51 JAGUAR S-Type 3.0 V6 4-Door Saloon Automatic.** In Pacific blue with cashmere beige full leather interior, climate control, CD, electric seats, rear parking sensors, only 55,810 miles **£5,995**

01 **X LEXUS RX 300 Station Wagon Auto.** In platinum silver with Lincoln interior, air con, alloy wheels, electric windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 85,000 miles **£5,996**

SPORTS

07 **07 NISSAN Navara 2.5 DCi Outlaw Double Cab Pick-Up.** In stardust silver, with black outlaw cloth interior, air con, cruise control, CD, alloy wheels, lockable colour coded load cover, only 24,560 miles ..... **£13,995 + VAT**

07 **07 VW Beetle 1.6 Luna 2-dr Cabriolet.** In harvest moon beige with dark interior, heated seats, CD, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 11,335 miles **£12,995**

07 **07 PEUGEOT 207 1.6 HDi Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** In Onyx black with Madrid black/grey interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 29,405 miles **£8,495**

06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-Dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles **£10,495**

06 **06 VOLKSWAGEN Golf GT TDi 2.0 (140) 5-dr** in steel grey with dark interior, cd, dual climate control, cruise control, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, only 58,300 miles **£9,995**

06 **06 AUDI A3 1.9TDi Special Edition 3-Dr Hatchback.** In brilliant black with module black cloth interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, full Audi service history, one owner, only 55,390 miles **£9,495**

06 **06 FORD Focus 1.8TDCi Sport 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with dark flint interior, CD, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 55,315 miles **£7,495**

06 **55 AUDI A3 2.0T FSi 5-dr Sport Back** in Avus silver with matrix cloth interior. BOSE speaker system, 17 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, climate conrol, cd, only 39,280 miles **£11,995**

05 **05 MINI 1.6 Cooper S (Chilli Pack).** Black, black leather interior, a/c, alloys, cd, rear parking sensors, only 49,390 miles **£11,995**

05 **55 BMW X3 2.0D Sport 5-dr Station Wagon.** In blue water silver with black leather interior, sat nav, multi CD, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, only 61,930 miles **£14,995**

05 **54 MG ZT-T 1.8T 160 5-dr Estate.** In Royal blue, Monaco ash half leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, multi-function steering wheel, only 32,320 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£7,995**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 182 Sport 3-dr hatchback.** In met blue with half leather/suede interior, sports seats, traction control, cruise control, climate control, alloys, 6 cd auto changer, only 51,314 miles **£6,995**

03 **53 MGTF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles **£4,495**

02 **52 VOLKSWAGEN Golf TDi (130) 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Reflex silver with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, climate control, CD changer, only 68,990 miles **£5,995**

01 **Y AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225)** in met silver with full granite leather, 18" alloy wheels, heated seats, trip computer, cruise control + climate control, cd multi-changer with BOSE stereo upgrade, only 63,010 miles **£8,495**

00 **X TVR Tuscan 4 litre V8 360bhp.** In crystal topaz pearl blue with portland grey leather interior, cd, 18" spyder alloy wheels, e/windows, cat 1 alarm, e/mirrors, a/c, substantial workshop portfolio, supreme example, only 36,000 miles **£12,995**

99 **T BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr Convertible.** In Green with green leather interior, colour coded bumpers, CD, alloy wheels, electric hood, only 51,300 miles **£5,995**

FAMILY

06 **56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr hatchback.** In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles **£7,995**

06 **56 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX 5-Dr Estate.** In imperial blue with grey interior, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser, service history, only 31,860 miles **£4,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV** in tonic blue with dark flint interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 31,000 miles **£8,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16V SE 5-dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

05 **05 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6 16v Exclusive 5-Dr MPV.** In Oriental blue with dorcie blue interior, cruise control, automatic air con, Isofix anchorage point, traction control system, only 32,355 miles **£6,495**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 SW 2.0 HDi 90 XSi 5-dr Estate.** China blue, black/grey merlin interior, a/c, body coloured bumpers, cd, alloys, only 45,796 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 RENAULT Scenic 1.4 16v Authentique** in met grey with anthracite interior, a/c, auto wipers, auto lights, only 42,800 miles **£4,695**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6 16v Ghia Hatchback.** In moon dust silver with midnight black interior, air con, quick clear windscreen, front fog lights, colour coded bumpers, only 48,695 miles **£4,495**

02 **52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr Hatchback.** Grey tungsten cloth, cd, a/c, reversing sensors, colour coded bumpers, only 44,300 miles **£3,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles **£7,995**

01 **Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon.** In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles **£4,295**

SMALL

08 **58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVT-I T2 5-dr Hatchback.** In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles **£7,995**

08 **08 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Breeze** in black sapphire, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, multi-functional steering wheel, only 5,242 miles **£7,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Expression 3-dr** in platinum silver met with voile interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, remote central locking, elec windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 4,747 miles **£6,995**

06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with Kompass blue interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, only 39,475 miles **£6,495**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-Dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus Sport** in pearl black pearlescent with extreme interior, colour coded bumpers, remote central locking, alloy wheels, alarm and immobiliser, electric windows, only 22,488 miles **£5,295**

06 **55 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVT-i Sport** in carbon quartz met with dark flint interior, alloy wheels, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, elecctric windows, only 51,300 miles **£4,995**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£5,495**

04 **54 FORD Fiesta Flame 1.4 Limited Edition 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Flare orange with Kompass silver interior, CD, alloy wheels, roof spoiler, air con, only 36,585 miles **£4,695**

04 **54 FORD Ka 1.3 3-door Hatchback.** In deep navy blue with indigo cascade cloth interior, CD, ABS, immobiliser, power steering, only 31,595 miles **£2,995**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In Platinum silver with dark grey interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, CD, front fogs, only 37,700 miles **£4,795**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.3 Style 3-dr Hatchback.** In moondust silver with digit anthracite interior, CD, power steering, colour coded bumpers, only 48,656 miles **£3,495**

02 **02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles **£5,495**

02 **52 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback** in met silver with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 48,060 miles **£3,995**

02 **02 DAEWOO Matiz 0.8 SE 5-dr.** In super red with grey interior, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 30,288 miles **£2,495**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46.010 miles **£3,995**

00 **X RENAULT Megane 1.4 16v Sport Alize 2-Door Coupe.** In Monaco blue with blue interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, immobiliser, only 62,000 miles **£2,495**

L **93 AUSTIN Mini 1.3 Sprite 2-dr Saloon Automatic.** In night fire red with grey interior, all original specification, only 47,215 miles **£2,995**

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06 **56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr** in sparkling graphite met with full Boston beige leather interior, comfort pack, cd, climate control, alloy wheels, reversing sensors, auxiliary I-pod connection, only 19,950 miles interior titanium trim, auto lights and auto wipers **£11,995**

06 **56 BMW 2.0TD 320D SE 4-dr Saloon.** In Arctic grey with anthracite interior, automatic air con, upgraded alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 41,655 miles, fsh **£14,995**

02 **52 VOLKSWAGEN Golf TDi (130) 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Reflex silver with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, climate control, CD changer, only 68,990 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 VOLKSWAGEN Golf GT TDi 2.0 (140) 5-dr** in steel grey with dark interior, cd, dual climate control, cruise control, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, only 58,300 miles **£9,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Expression 3-dr** in platinum silver met with voile interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, remote central locking, elec windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 4,747 miles **£6,995**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£5,495**

04 **54 FORD Ka 1.3 3-door Hatchback.** In deep navy blue with indigo cascade cloth interior, CD, ABS, immobiliser, power steering, only 31,595 miles **£2,995**

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04 04 TOYOTA Celica VVTi 1.8 39k, leather

£5,775
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus, grey met, 39k miles

£4,975
00 W JAGUAR Sovereign 4.0 Auto, cream leather

£4,975
03 53 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0SE, 51k, leather

Finance example

Amount of credit: £4975.00
35 Monthly payments of £163.06
Final payment of £462.06
Total charge for credit £1194.16
Total amount payable £6169.16
Weekly equivalent £39.55

APR 14.82%
*Photos are indicative only

Small Cars

02 02 SUZUKI Wagon R 1.3 GL Special 5dr. Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, a/c, e/w, alloys ... £3,475
04 53 FIAT Punto 1.3 Active 5-dr. Grey, 71k miles, cl., ew, pas, city beater, cd £3,475
03 03 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 5dr. Blue met, 47k miles, rcl, pas, e/w, cd £3,675
03 03 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 AUTO. Blue met, 25k, rcl, pas,ew, cd £3,975
03 03 SKODA Fabia 1.9 TDi Turbo Diesel 5dr. Green met, 61k miles, rcl, cd, alloys £4,475
04 54 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 3dr SXI. Blue metallic, 53k miles, rcl, alloys, ew, pas . £4,475
05 54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 3-dr. Silver, met, 58k miles, rcl, pas, ew, cd .. £4,475
07 07 HYUNDAI Amica 1.1 GSI 5dr. Blue metallic,20k miles, ew, cd, pas £4,475
04 04 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Expression 5dr. Blue met, 32k miles, rcl, pas, e/w, cd .. £4,675
05 55 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVT-I Colour Collection 3-dr. Met grey, 38k miles, alloys, rcl, pas, ew £4,975
06 06 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 16v Enjoy 5dr. Met purple, 12k miles rcl,pas,ew,cd ... £5,975
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus 5-dr, grey met, 39k miles, rcl, pas. ew, cd £5,775
07 07 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-dr, silver met, 39k miles, ew, pas, cd £6,475
07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life (a/c) 3-dr, grey met, 26k miles, rcl, pas, cd, ew .. £6,475
07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr. Met black, cd, a/c, pas, 12k miles £6,975
08 08 SUZUKI Swift 1.3 gl 5dr. Met orange with silver stripes, 19k miles, rcl, alloys, cd ... £7,975

Family Cars

04 04 HONDA Jazz 1.4 DSI SE AUTO 5dr. Silver metallic, rcl,cd,ew,alloys £4,975
05 05 NISSAN Almera Tino 1.8 SE mpv, 31k miles £4,975
05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 LX Estate, red met, 33k miles, rcl, ew, pas, rof rails £5,475
06 06 FORD Fusion 1.6 Zetec AUTO 5dr. Silver met, 44k miles, rcl, alloys, a/c, cd £6,975
07 07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5dr. Met blue, e windows, RCL, 5k miles .. £6,975
06 06 FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi Ghia 5dr DIESEL. Tonic met, alloys, cd, fsh £7,975

Sports & Executives

01 51 ROVER 75 2.5 V6 AUTO Connoisseur. Blue met, rcl, a/c, cd, alloys, e/w, nav, full leather £3,475
00 W JAGUAR Sovereign 4.0 Auto 5dr. Met green, 89k, cream leather, a/c, must be seen . £4975
04 54 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 3dr (120bhp) Dynamique TURBO DIESEL. 60k miles, panoramic roof, rcl, a/c, e/w £5,475
03 52 PEUGEOT 206cc Convertible. Silver met, 38k miles, rcl, e/w, cd, 2 tone leather £5,975
05 54 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi SRI AUTO 5dr. Met blue, alloys, a/c, fsh £5,975
08 08 FIAT Grande Punto 1.4 Dynamic Sport. Grey, 12k miles, rcl, e/w, alloys, a/c £7,975
04 04 TOYOTA Celica VVTi. Met silver, 39k, S/H, sports pack, leather, sunroof, a/c £7,475
04 04 BMW 330D Sport 5dr. Met silver, M TEC styling, leather, fsh £8,975

Estates, MPVs and 4x4s

02 02 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Expression MPV AUTO, silver met, 55k miles, rcl, ew, ac, twin sunroofs £2,975
04 04 DAEWOO Tacuma 1.6 Extra MPV, silver met, 22k miles, rcl, ew, pas, roof rails £3,475
05 05 NISSAN Almera Tino 1.8 SE MPV. Silver met, 32k miles, rcl, cd, a/c, ew, reverse, climate £4,975
05 54 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive MPV, met silver £7,475
07 07 LANDROVER Freelander 2.2 TD4 HSE. Black metallic, 23k miles, front and rear sensors,touch screen nav £21,975

Summer Cars - Winter Prices

96 N FORD Friedia AUTO 2.5 TURBO DIESEL. 96k miles, a/c, electric blinds, elevating roof £4,975
03 53 MGTF 115 Sunstorm CONVERTIBLE. Black met, 49k miles, alloys, rcl, hard top £4,975
04 53 MGTF 1.8 135 CONVERTIBLE. Silver met, 31k miles, alloys, rcl, e/w, pas £4,975
04 04 FORD Street Ka Luxury 1.6 CONVERTIBLE luxury. Black, 49k miles, leather, rcl, a/c, cd, e/w £5,975
06 06 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique CONVERTIBLE. Black met, 21k miles, rcl, a/c, cd, e/w £8,975
04 04 SAAB 93 2.0T Vector CONVERTIBLE. Grey met, 50k miles, alloys, cd, a/c, rcl, full leather £9,475
04 04 MERCEDES SL 500 AUTO CONVERTIBLE. Silver met, 82k miles, nav, keyless go, leather, park sensors £19,975

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06 56 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 Design 5dr. Silver met, **only 1,900 miles!** New £8,975 **Ours £5,975** **Saving £3,000**
06 56 FORD Fiesta 1.6 5dr Style Climate AUTO. **Only 2,300 miles!** New £11,275 **Ours £6,775** **Saving £4,500**
56 06 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 5dr Life (A/C) Blue met, **only 4,900 miles!** New £14,975 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £8,000**
06 56 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5dr. Met gold, **only 3200 miles!** New £14,336 **Ours £6,475** **Saving £7,861**
06 56 CITROEN C3 1.6 SX 5dr AUTO. Met blue, **only 5200 miles!** New £12,182 **Ours £6,475** **Saving £5,707**
06 56 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Life A/C AUTO 5dr. Panacotta, **only 4,900 miles** New £14,975 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £8,000**
06 56 FORD Fusion 1.6 Zetec Climate 5dr. Red met, **only 2.000 miles** New £12,475 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £5,500**
06 56 FORD Focus C-Max Zetec 2.0 AUTO 5dr. Met mintgreen, **only 4300 miles!** New £17,172 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £10,197**
06 56 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Sport 5dr. Grey met, **only 2,500 miles** New £11,475 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £4,500**
06 56 RENAULT Clio 1.6 Expression AUTO 5dr. Met blue, **only 1760 miles!** New £12,475 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £5,500**
06 56 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 5dr. Met black, **only 2500 miles!** New £10,975 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £4,000**
06 56 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.65 dr Life (A/C) Blue met, **only 1,500 miles** New £14,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £7,500**
06 06 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique. Red met, **only 4,500 miles!** New £16,795 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £9,000**
58 09 FORD Fusion 1.4 5dr Style AUTO. Red met, **only 1,000 miles!** New £11,275 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £3,500**
06 56 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique AUTO. Gold met, **only 2,700 miles** New £16,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £9,500**
06 56 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Style Climate AUTO. Blue met, **only 3,700 miles** New £11,475 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £4,000**
06 56 FORD C-Max 2.0 Zetec AUTO MPV. Blue met, **only 4,500 miles** New £17,475 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £10,000**
06 56 FORD Focus 1.6 Sport 5dr. Blue met, **only 5,600 miles** New £13,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £6,500**
08 58 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 5dr. Blue met, **only 3,000 miles!** New £10,175 **Ours £7,975** **Saving £2,200**
09 58 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life (A/C). Silver met, **only 741 miles** New £12,975 **Ours £8,475** **Saving £4,500**
09 58 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 5dr Hatch. Black met, **only 2,600 miles** New £10,475 **Ours £8,475** **Saving £2,000**
08 08 HONDA Jazz 1.4 5dr SE. Blue met, **only 4,800 miles!** New £11,475 **Ours £8,975** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 5dr Life. Silver met, **only 1,700 miles!** New £14,975 **Ours £9,475** **Saving £5,500**
09 09 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 5dr club AUTO. Silver met, **only 400 miles!** New £11,975 **Ours £9,475** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 CITROEN Berlingo 1.6 HDi 5dr VTR. Blue met, **only 2,200 miles!** New £12,475 **Ours £9,975** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style+ 5dr. Black met, **only 650 miles** New £12,97 **Ours £10,475** **Saving £2,500**

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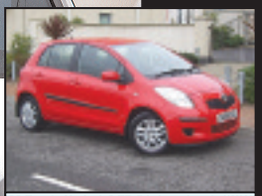
05 Audi A6 2.0 TDI SE 140 [Multi Media Interface] in silver, 1 owner 2.0 Dsl 140PS. MMI, FASH, e/w, e/seats, alloys . .£8,995

56 Peugeot 407 Coupe SE+ Executive 2.2 in black met, 27K FPSH full nappa leather, alloys, bi xenon, climate, h/seats .£8,995



08 Toyota Yaris 1.0 TR 5dr in red met, ONLY 12k, NEW SHAPE. FTSH. In new cond, a/c, alloys £8,495

08 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 5dr in black met, anthracite pack. ONLY 23K FSH. Alloys, a/c £7,445

07 Peugeot 207 1.4 Sport 5dr (a/c) in black met, NEW SHAPE, only 38k. FSH. Low insurance, alloys, a/c £6,995

05 Renault Clio 2.0 Renaultsport 182 in silver. ONLY 48,000 miles FSH. Loaded 182 BHP £6,495

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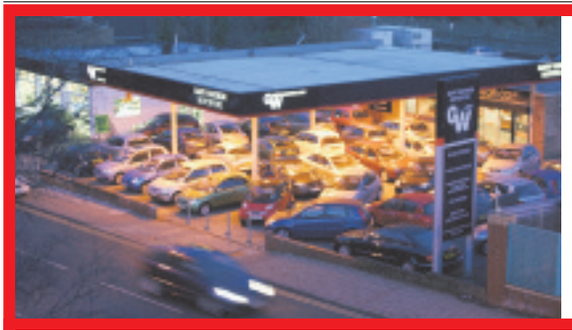

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GEM sport

Wales set to roar in battle of the Lions – and spoil centenary celebrations

BACK PAGE COMMENT
by Don John

AS if the final countdown to the 119th meeting between world rugby's two arch rivals is not drama enough for the most fervent aficionados, the Lee Byrne saga has been in danger of igniting a fuse that could make Saturday's centenary-year clash at Twickenham an even more explosive occasion than usual.

For there is no doubt that the farcical events of the Heineken Cup match between the Ospreys and Leicester Tigers that saw Wales and British Lions full back Byrne being singled out for blame in the '16th man' uproar and banned from facing England after the defeated Tigers' vehement protests, have left a bitter aftertaste on both sides of the border.

The fact that the Welsh camp's preparations for the Six Nations opener were seriously disrupted, forcing the head coach to delay his team announcement while Byrne mounted a successful appeal against his sentence in Glasgow on Tuesday, would not have gone down well, with many rightly questioning why an unintentional touchline mix-up in a club competition should result in a key Welsh player being penalised at international level. Thankfully, commonsense prevailed in the end.

With wily Leicester demanding a complete re-match because of the bare 50 seconds when Ospreys had 16 men on the field, Welsh indignation would not have been soothed by veiled suggestions of deliberate 'cheating' by the region fed through the London media – even equating it to the Harlequins- 'Bloodgate' scandal!

It has prompted wry rejoinders by those with long memories that the Leicester club itself has hardly been whiter-than-white 'Back' in the past!

Ironically, the prevailing attitude in this cynically-professional age where sport is now big business dictated by TV schedules, and money is the main motivating force, was unwittingly spelt out by former England star turned rugby pundit, Stuart Barnes, when he wrote:

"Cheating is smart play…You have to coach teams how to be disciplined and by discipline, I mean committing infringements when they have to – not for the sake of them...

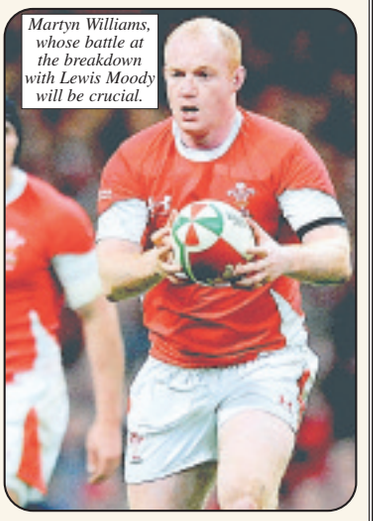
"During a game there are times when you think the opposition is going to score and you have to break the rules..."

All this is a far cry from the situation the red-faced Ospreys management found themselves in, but it remains to be seen if the fallout from the Heineken controversy still clouds the air when the two teams run out at 'Twickers' on Saturday.

If so, it would be a pity, for this 119th match promises to be a particularly enthralling encounter between two camps that have much to prove, following disappointing autumn results, and the relative lack of success by their respective clubs and regions in Europe.

Freed of the distractions afflicting Warren Gatland and the Wales management, England kingpin Martin Johnson was able to quietly unveil his line-up at lunchtime on Tuesday and it contained few surprises.

With a pack containing the likes of Moody, Haskell, Easter and Shaw; and a pacey-looking backline marshalled by born-again Jonny Wilkinson, on paper it presents a potentially formidable mix.



Martyn Williams, whose battle at the breakdown with Lewis Moody will be crucial.

However, the more seasoned Wales team, packed with British Lions and buoyed by four victories in the last six meetings with the 'old enemy' including the stunning 23-15 win to launch the second Grand Slam two years ago, will be quietly confident of spoiling the centenary celebrations.

They were banking on a reunited Lions' front row of Adam Jones, Matthew Rees and Gethin Jenkins, to establish a crucial edge over the English lion, by dominating the less battle-hardened opposing trio, thus enabling the Welsh pack to tie in the big English eight, and freeing their own exciting backs to seek out the wide open spaces of Twickenham.

Sadly, when the team was announced yesterday it showed that Rees has had to withdraw through injury, and will be replaced by in-form Blues hooker Gareth Williams, whose wing colleague Tom James starts ahead of Leigh Halfpenny.

With Byrne thankfully at full back, there were no other surprises, though one imagines there was quite a bit of debate over the inside half slot.

As all eyes now turn towards west London, both head coaches will be all too painfully aware that this is already seen as a season-defining match in terms of their teams' aspirations, as rugby's holy grail of World Cup glory inches ever nearer.

Let battle commence!

WALES TEAM:

Lee Byrne; Tom James, James Hook, Jamie Roberts, Shane Williams; Stephen Jones, Gareth Cooper; Gethin Jenkins, Gareth Williams, Adam Jones, Alun Wyn Jones, Luke Charteris, Andy Powell, Martyn Williams, Ryan Jones (captain).

Replacements: Huw Bennett, Paul James, Bradley Davies, Jonathan Thomas, Richie Rees, Andrew Bishop, Leigh Halfpenny.

(See full Six Nations fixture list and Welsh squad picture on page 10).

Barry show ruthless side in local derby

Barry RFC	**59**
Cowbridge RFC	**10**

BARRY displayed all the positives of Welsh club rugby last weekend; a superb channel backdrop; a well appointed and freshly decorated clubhouse; and a team that was determined to prove they could justify their league position up with the leaders.

For the second consecutive fixture, the game had the benefit of a referee who was firm but prepared to let the game flow.

From the outset, the home team confirmed their intention to play with ball in hand and not be sucked into what has become the normal and boring spectacle of 'kick now and think later'.

These tactics bore fruit. Barry took an early lead with a smartly-taken try by Busuttil. There followed a period of pressure by the forwards, which paved the way for a try by Provis.

There was however, a penalty to be paid for this adventurous approach, with a Cowbridge centre intercepting a sloppy pass under his own posts and running in for a good try.

This was a sobering lesson for Barry that if you are intent on playing adventurous rugby, the basics still have to be executed correctly.

An encouraging feature of the first half of the game was a much-improved line-out performance, with Gee consistently finding the jumpers and King and Gill also taking some of their opponents' ball.

With the first half drawing to a close, the large crowd was 'entertained' by a home side attempting suicide by dithering under a succession of high kicks from the visitors.

Barry had played this first session with a refreshingly open approach, but Cowbridge showed a lot of pace out wide and had taken both opportunities they were given to score.

With a 14 -10 points interval lead, Barry started the second half as they had the first, but a desperate search for the bonus point clouded their approach.

The objective should have been to secure the game and not spurning every available penalty point on the altar of tries, which cannot be a good tactic.

Your correspondent may, of course, be wrong, because as the second half continued, tries came thick and fast!

These scores were made possible by a very impressive performance from the pack, which took total control of proceedings, with major contributions from Hunt, George and Jones.

The home side backs were not taking full advantage of all this hard work and persistently overran the ball carrier in their pursuit of the bonus point try. The tries did come and Provis completed his hat trick before an acrobatic pass from Gee put Lee over in the corner for the captain to convert.

Barry's superior fitness was telling and the fresh legs of Hollister and Oxenham enabled them to exert substantial forward momentum. This resulted in a close range try for George, and opened up the space for another try for Provis.

A very satisfactory afternoon's performance was completed with a try from a blind-side run by Lee.

Barry were good value for this result: the style and panache they exhibited should attract more support over the coming weeks, and their defence continues to perform well.

An interesting statistic is that throughout the 13 national leagues, there are only four teams with a better defensive record than Barry.

The next game is away to Dinas Powys on February 20, unless previously postponed fixtures can be re-arranged.

CO

Barry Town return to their winning ways in close game

BARRY TOWN	**3**
BRYNTIRION ATHLETIC	**2**

AFTER two poor results in recent weeks, manager Gavin Chesterfield once again shuffled his limited squad around.

Gavin must have been very frustrated as he watched his team create innumerable chances, yet fail to take any of them.

Winger Jaymes Dixon started as an out and out striker, joining Sam Small as a twin strike force and Kirk Huggins started for the first time after his long term injury.

With other positional changes, the strategy seemed to be working as for the first 10 minutes the home side dominated the play and again created scoring chances which were spurned.

Then, with their first serious foray into the Dragons' half, the visitors scored against the run of play. Dan Bradley in the Barry goal pulled off a fantastic point-blank save and then saw his effort come to no avail as Bryn striker Anthony Rawlings, almost on the goal line, drive the ball into the net.

This knocked the players' confidence as with the side struggling to score, losing a goal meant an uphill struggle.

The next half hour saw the Dragons once again on the back foot with passes continually going astray, leaving the opposition to find acres of room in which to work.

The Dragons equalised in the 38th minute following one of the finest footballing moments seen at Jenner Park this season, and strangely alien in the context of what went on before!

Several short and accurate passes involving four or five Barry Town players led to striker James Simpson firing home an absolutely stunning goal.

With fans now getting excited and the famed Barry choir in the players' ears, the confidence started to ooze from the players and it was no surprise that three minutes later they scored again.

Striker Sam Small fired a sweet strike into the far right hand corner of the net, leaving the visiting 'keeper looking on in despair. The half-time whistle came with Barry Town completely on top.

The second half began this time with the Town on the front foot and playing some nice football, but yet again, the opposition scored against the run of play.

It came from a set piece with a well-taken flighted ball into the box which saw Bryn defender Sean Williams climb above the home defence and score with a superb header into the far corner of the goal, again leaving the Town 'keeper with no chance.

The goal could have really knocked the players' confidence, but showing the character that we have come to expect from them, they immediately went on the attack searching for a winner.

It eventually came in the 75th minute when some individual brilliance from Jaymes Dixon saw him using skill and pace to get through the Bryntirion defence, and hitting a fine low drive into the net.

It really was a strange sort of game with a mixture of nervousness and some moments of brilliance, with two fine young goalkeepers each keeping their side in it when needed with some excellent keeping.

The game finished with the score at 3-2 to Barry Town and overall they were worth the points. Hopefully, they will take this confidence into building another unbeaten run.

Next up is West End, away, on February 6.

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DAVID COLE